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**Organization and expression of mitochondrial genes for
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Miho Takemura

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Introduction

Abbreviations

ATP	adenosine 5'-triphosphate
dCTP	deoxycytidine 5'-triphosphate
bp	base pair(s)
BSA	bovine serum albumin
Da	dalton
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
EDTA	ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
Hepes	2-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazinyl] ethanesulfonic acid
kb	kilobase pair(s)
MOPS	3-(N-morpholino) propanesulfonic acid
mRNA	messenger RNA
mtDNA	mitochondrial DNA
mtRNA	mitochondrial RNA
ORF	open reading frame
PCR	polymerase chain reaction method
PIPES	piperazine-N, N'-bis-(2-ethanesulfonic acid)
RNA	ribonucleic acid
rRNA	ribosomal RNA
SDS	sodium dodecyl sulfate
SSC	standard saline citrate
Tris	tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane
tRNA	transfer RNA

Mitochondria, which are present in all eukaryotic cells, are the energy-converting organelles. They contain multiple copies of the mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and consequently their own genetic systems. Although the mitochondrial genomes of mammals and fungi have been well investigated in detail, the studies of those from plants have been made little progress because of their large size and complex structure. The mammalian mitochondrial genome is a circular molecule of about 16 kb (16,569 bp in human) (Anderson *et al.*, 1981) and extraordinarily information is tightly packed. The fungi mtDNA is larger than that of mammal (about 80 kb in yeast or 94,192 bp in *Podospora*) (de Zamaroczy and Bernardi, 1986; Cummings *et al.*, 1990). On the other hand, plant mitochondrial genomes, which vary in size from about 200 kb in *Brassica* (Labacq and Vedel, 1981) to approximately 2,500 kb in muskmelon (Ward *et al.*, 1981), are much larger than those from mammals and fungi. They are usually organized multiple circular molecules, with conversion of circular forms mediated by frequent homologous recombination between repeated sequences. For example, the mitochondrial genome of *Brassica campestris* is found to be organized as a tripartite structure, a "master" circle of 218 kb and two subgenomic circles of 135 kb and 83 kb which are formed through a directly repeated 2 kb sequence (Palmer and Shields, 1984). In addition to the multiple partite structures, sequences highly homologous to chloroplast DNA are generally present in the plant mitochondrial genomes, and thus this may complicate structures of them. Different chloroplast sequences are found at various locations in the mitochondrial genomes of different species. These findings demonstrate that DNA transfer from chloroplast to mitochondria is common in higher plants and that most of the events might happen recently.

The molecular mechanisms that regulate mitochondrial gene expression have been most thoroughly investigated in animals (especially human) and fungi (particularly yeast). In vertebrate, each strand of the circular mitochondrial DNA is divergently transcribed from a single major promoter near the primary origin of

replication (reviewed in Clayton, 1984; Clayton, 1991). On the other hand, there are several sites of transcription initiation on the mitochondrial genome of yeast, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Christianson and Rabinowitz, 1983). Moreover, it is demonstrated that not only mitochondrial RNA polymerase but also transcription factor are required for promoter-specific transcription in human and yeast (reviewed in Schinkel and Tabak, 1989). Studies of gene expression in plant mitochondria are considerably less well advanced than animal and fungal mitochondria. To date, several characteristics of transcription in plant mitochondria are almost clear (reviewed in Gray *et al.*, 1992). Like the situation in yeast, transcription of plant mtDNA is initiated at multiple sites, although many separate initiation sites are present for a single gene unlike the case of yeast. The most highly conserved consensus of transcription initiation region have been identified in the monocot and also in the dicot. However, these consensus motifs seem to differ between the various plant species, indicating the flexibility of promoter sequences in plant mitochondria. Molecular mechanisms of other events occurred in plant mitochondria, for example RNA processing, *trans*-splicing and RNA editing, are still unknown.

Recently, mtDNA of a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*, was found to be a single circular molecule of about 184 kb in size by electron microscopic observation and restriction endonuclease mapping in this laboratory (Oda *et al.*, 1992b). Then, the complete nucleotide sequences of the liverwort mtDNA was determined and its entire gene organization was identified (Fig. 1, Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Oda *et al.*, 1992c). In the sequence of 186,608 bp, 96 possible genes were detected. These included genes for three species of ribosomal RNA, 29 genes for 27 species of tRNA, 31 open reading frames for functionally known proteins, five for functionally unknown open reading frames which showed similarity to those of other organisms, and 28 open reading frames predicted as possible genes. Thirty-two introns were found in the coding regions of 17 genes. Twenty-five of them belonged to group II introns and remaining seven were group I introns. At present, liverwort is the only plant species whose complete nucleotide sequences of mtDNA are available. In contrast to the heterogeneity of most plant mtDNA, no recombination was detected in liverwort

(Oda *et al.*, 1992a). It was also found that no sequences homologous to chloroplast DNA were present. Since the nucleotide sequences of the liverwort mitochondrial DNA were well-conserved at the DNA level in the course of evolution, RNA editing was apparently lacking in the liverwort mitochondria.

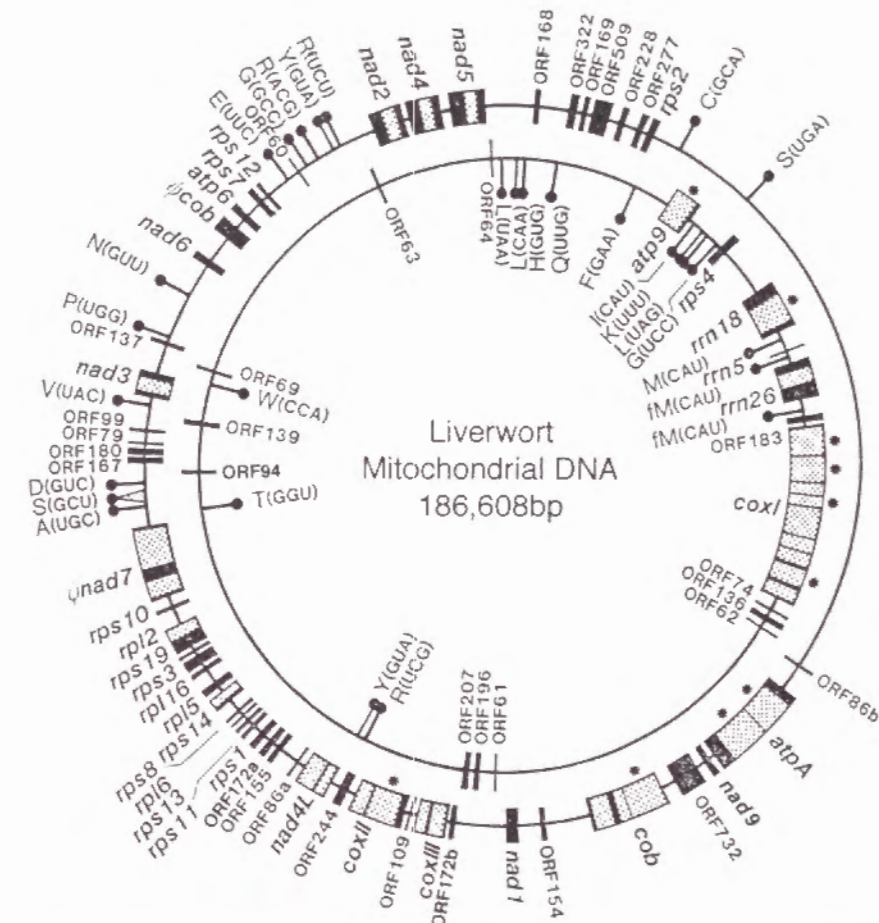


Fig. 1. Gene organization of the mitochondrial genome from a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha* (Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Oda *et al.*, 1992c). Genes shown outside the map are transcribed anticlockwise, and those inside are transcribed clockwise. Solid and hatched boxes indicate exons and introns, respectively in the coding regions. Asterisks indicate introns having ORF homologous to RNA maturase. Genes for tRNAs are shown as *trn* with the one-letter amino acid codes and their anticodons. Genes encoding the small subunit and large subunit ribosomal proteins are shown as *rps* and *rpl*, respectively. *rrn*, *atp*, *nad*, *cox*, and *cob* represent the genes for ribosomal RNAs, H⁺ ATPase subunits, NADH dehydrogenase subunits, cytochrome *c* oxidase subunits, and apocytochrome *b*, respectively. *orfs* indicate the open reading frames.

In this thesis, the author has intended to make progress in our understanding on the genetic information system of plant mitochondria using a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*. In chapter I, sixteen genes for ribosomal proteins were detected. The genes formed two major clusters, very similar in organization to *E. coli* ribosomal protein operons. Transcription analysis of all the ribosomal protein genes were carried out. In chapter II, eight genes for NADH dehydrogenase subunits were characterized. Transcriptional analysis of these genes were performed. Almost all of them were supposed to be co-transcribed with their neighboring genes. In chapter III, *ψ_{mad7}* was actively transcribed but the two predicted introns in the gene were not spliced. The Southern blot analysis of the nuclear DNA and the Northern blot analysis of the poly(A)⁺mRNA suggested that the nuclear genome encoded the mitochondrial gene for ND7 polypeptide.

Chapter I

Genes for ribosomal proteins in liverwort mitochondrial genome

Introduction

Organelles (mitochondria and plastids) contain prokaryotic-type ribosomes, whose constituent proteins are partly encoded by the organelle genome, the remainder being specified by the nuclear genome and imported into the organelle post-translationally. The complete nucleotide sequences of liverwort, tobacco, and rice chloroplast genomes have revealed that each encodes about 20 genes for ribosomal proteins (r-proteins) (Ohya *et al.*, 1986; Shinozaki *et al.*, 1986; Hiratsuka *et al.*, 1989) (Table 1.). On the other hand, the completely sequenced human mitochondrial genome has no genes for r-proteins (Anderson *et al.*, 1981), while the yeast mitochondrial genome encodes only one species of r-protein (Butow *et al.*, 1985). In these latter cases, all or almost all of the mitochondrial r-proteins must be encoded by the respective nuclear genomes. In fact, some yeast nuclear genes for mitochondrial r-proteins have been cloned and sequenced (Myers *et al.*, 1987; Kitakawa *et al.*, 1990; Kang *et al.*, 1991). To date, only ten r-proteins (S1, S3, S7, S10, S12, S13, S14, S19, L5 and L16) have been described in the mtDNA of several species of angiosperms (Gonzalez *et al.*, 1993; Hunt and Newton, 1991; Gualberto *et al.*, 1988; Ye *et al.*, 1993; Sutton *et al.*, 1993; Bock *et al.*, 1994; Zhuo and Bonen, 1993; Zanolungo *et al.*, 1994; Suzuki *et al.*, 1991; Kim *et al.*, 1991; Bland *et al.*, 1986; Schuster and Brennicke, 1987a; Bonen, 1987; Wissinger *et al.*, 1990; Wahleithner and Wolstenholme, 1988; Schuster *et al.*, 1990a; Brandt *et al.*, 1993; Conklin and Hanson, 1991; Schuster and Brennicke, 1991; Schuster, 1993). The complete sequence of the liverwort mitochondrial DNA have been determined in this laboratory (Oda *et al.*, 1992a) and genes encoding sixteen different r-proteins (S1, S2, S3, S4, S7, S8, S10, S11, S12, S13, S14, S19, L2, L5, L6, and L16) have been identified. In this chapter, the author described the gene organization and the characteristics of the deduced amino acid sequences of these mitochondrially encoded r-proteins. Furthermore, the author reported the expressions of these genes at RNA levels.

Table 1. Genes for ribosomal proteins found in several organisms.

genome	ribosomal protein genes
<i>E. coli</i>	<i>rpsA-rpsU</i> <i>rplA-rplG, rplI-rplS, rplU-rplY, rpmA-rpmI</i>
Mitochondria	
Human	-
Yeast	<i>var1</i>
<i>Neurospora</i>	<i>rps5</i>
Angiosperm	<i>rps1, rps3, rps7, rps10, rps12, rps13, rps14, rps19, rpl5, rpl16</i>
Liverwort	<i>rps1, rps2, rps3, rps4, rps7, rps8, rps10, rps11, rps12, rps13, rps14, rps19, rpl2, rpl5, rpl6, rpl16</i>
Chloroplast	
Liverwort	<i>rps2, rps3, rps4, rps7, rps8, rps11, rps12, rps14, rps15, rps18, rpl2, rpl14, rpl16, rpl20, rpl21, rpl22, rpl23, rpl33, rpl35, orf69</i>

Materials and Methods

Analysis of nucleotide and amino acid sequences

Cloning and sequencing of the liverwort mitochondrial DNA were performed in this laboratory as described previously (Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Oda *et al.*, 1992b). The complete nucleotide sequence has been deposited in GenBank Data Library (accession number M68929). Computer aided analysis of nucleotide and amino acid sequences was carried out using the Hitachi DNASIS program on an NEC-9801VM computer, and the IDEAS program on a FACOM M-780 computer (Data Processing Center, Kyoto University) using NBRF PIR Release 25 database.

Isolation of mitochondria RNA from a cell culture of a liverwort, Marchantia polymorpha.

Cells of *M. polymorpha* were cultured in 1-M51C medium as described (Ohya *et al.*, 1988) on a gyratory shaker under continuous illumination. Liverwort

mitochondrial RNA was isolated from 7 or 10-day-old suspension culture of cells. The cells were washed twice with 2% sucrose and suspended in homogenization buffer (0.4M mannitol, 2mM EDTA, 0.1M Hepes-KOH pH 7.5, 0.1% BSA (Fraction-V), 1mM β -mercaptoethanol, 0.6% polyvinylpolypyrrolidone and 1mM aluminon). After disrupting the cells by a French press, the cell homogenates were filtrated by Miracloth (Calbiochem Co.). Nuclei and chloroplasts were removed by two cycles of centrifugation at 1,000 x g for 5 min. Mitochondria in the supernatant were collected by centrifugation at 10,000 x g for 15 min, and washed by homogenization buffer without polyvinylpolypyrrolidone. Mitochondria were precipitated by centrifugation at 10,000 x g for 15 min and suspended gently in dilution buffer (0.4M mannitol, 2mM EDTA, 20mM Hepes-KOH pH 7.5, 0.1% BSA (Fraction-V), 1mM β -mercaptoethanol and 1mM aluminon). Mitochondrial suspension was layered on the top of Percoll stepwise gradients (17% and 28% Percoll in a solution containing 0.4M mannitol, 2mM EDTA, 20mM Hepes-KOH pH 7.5, 0.2% BSA (fatty acid free), 1mM β -mercaptoethanol and 1mM aluminon) and centrifuged at 13,500 rpm for 30 min in a Beckman SW28 rotor. The mitochondrial fraction was obtained from the interface between the two Percoll layers. To remove Percoll, 20 times the volume of the dilution buffer was added, then mitochondria were pelleted by centrifugation at 15,000 x g for 15 min. The mitochondrial pellet was resuspended in lysis buffer (50mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 20mM EDTA and 2% sarkosyl) and extracted with phenol, phenol/chloroform, and then with chloroform. After ether extraction and ethanol precipitation, mtRNA was precipitated 4 times in the presence of 2M lithium chloride (Ausubel *et al.*, 1987). After then, the purified RNA (mtRNA) was precipitated with ethanol and dissolved in sterile water just before the use.

Northern Hybridization

RNA samples were denatured, loaded on 0.8% agarose gel containing 2.2M formaldehyde, 20mM MOPS pH 7.0, 5mM Sodium acetate, 1mM EDTA, and capillary-blotted onto Nylon membrane (Biodyne™ A, Pall, Tokyo). Hybridization was done at 45°C in a solution containing 6 x SSC, 0.1% SDS, 200 μ g/ml calf thymus DNA, 1

x Denhardt's and 20% formamide. After hybridization, the membranes were washed successively in 6 x SSC, 0.1% SDS at 42°C. Oligonucleotides were synthesized by automated DNA synthesizer (Applied Biosystems, USA) and have been designated according to the exon that they specify as follows. Oligonucleotides were labeled by [γ^{32} -P]ATP (5,000 Ci/mmol, Amersham) using a MEGALABEL kit (TAKARA, Kyoto).

rps2 : 5'-GGCCTTTTGCCTAATGATAGATCCAATC-3' (Fig. 5A, 1)
rps4 : 5'-AGTTGCCTTGCTTGAAACATAG-3' (Fig. 5A, 2)
rps12 : 5'-CGAACAAGCTGATTGTTGGC-3' (Fig. 6A, 1)
rps7 : 5'-GAAACTACGATTGGCTTCAGC-3' (Fig. 6A, 2)
atp6 : 5'-GGGGAAAAACCGTTGTTTCACCG-3' (Fig. 6A, 3)
ψcob : 5'-TGGCTCCATGAAGAGGATCCC-3' (Fig. 6A, 4)
rps10 : 5'-GCAGAAGCCCTGACCTTTGATTCTCAAAG-3' (Fig. 7A, 1)
rpl2 : 5'-GCTTCGATCCACCTCCTCGGTGAAA-3' (Fig. 7A, 2)
rps19 : 5'-AGGACCTTTCCATATAGAGCGTG-3' (Fig. 7A, 3)
rps3 : 5'-GAGTCTGACTGAAATCGGATTTAC-3' (Fig. 7A, 4)
rpl16 : 5'-GCTTATAGCACGACGCGCTGCTTCAA-3' (Fig. 7A, 5)
rpl5 : 5'-CATGATATGCCCTCGTAGAGTGC-3' (Fig. 7A, 6)
rps14 : 5'-CTTATATACGGAACGAGGGCGCCCTGTG-3' (Fig. 7A, 7)
rps8 : 5'-CTTGGCATAGAATCTCACCGCC-3' (Fig. 7A, 8)
rpl6 : 5'-CCCTTTATAAACTTCAGGAGG-3' (Fig. 7A, 9)
rps13 : 5'-CGTTGGCCGCGTAAGGGCAATCC-3' (Fig. 7A, 10)
rps11 : 5'-GGTCGGCATCCATTATGTGGCG-3' (Fig. 7A, 11)
rps1 : 5'-GGAGTTTTTCAGTCCTGTATCCACCAA-3' (Fig. 7A, 12)

Results and Discussion

Amino acid sequences of r-proteins encoded by liverwort mtDNA

Amino acid sequences of r-protein genes detected in the liverwort mitochondrial genome were compared with their counterparts from *E. coli*, liverwort chloroplast, and the mitochondria of angiosperms (Fig. 1). The degree of sequence identity of

the liverwort mitochondrial r-proteins with their homologues in other systems ranged from 23.7% to 62.1% (*E. coli*), 22.4% to 64.2% (liverwort chloroplast), and 43.6% to 80.8 % (angiosperm mitochondria) (Table 2.). The low values in liverwort mitochondria vs chloroplast amino acid sequence comparisons indicate that inter-organellar gene transfer does not occur between the liverwort chloroplast and mitochondrial genomes as observed in *Oenothera rps4* gene (Schuster and Brennicke, 1987b). The mitochondrial RPS12 is encoded in the mitochondrial genome of not only the liverwort but also most higher plants investigated to date, while in *Oenothera* only small part of the reading frames is retained by the mitochondrial genome and a complete copy is encoded by the nuclear genome (Grohmann *et al.*, 1992). This nuclear-encoded S12 and the liverwort mitochondrial S12 showed 79.2% identity.

Table 2. Amino acid sequence homology (%) of liverwort mitochondrial ribosomal proteins to those of *E. coli*, angiosperm mitochondria, and liverwort chloroplast, and of liverwort chloroplast to that of *E. coli*.

Protein	<i>E. coli</i>	Angiosperm mt	Liverwort cp	Liverwort cp/ <i>E. coli</i>
S 1	23.7	43.6	-	-
2	27.1		22.8	44.3
3	25.4	46.9-50.4	24.1	40.6
4	25.0		22.4	40.1
7	35.8	58.5	29.9	43.8
8	35.1		26.7	45.5
10	31.5	58.3	-	-
11	48.0		48.8	51.5
12	62.1	80.8	64.2	70.2
13	38.3	55.0-61.2	-	-
14	43.3	64.6-70.4	38.4	45.0
19	41.7	54.1	42.9	63.0
L 2	44.8		43.2	48.4
5	28.6	60.9-68.7	-	-
6	36.6		-	-
16	50.4	71.9-78.5	45.9	53.8

(a) *rps1*

Liverwort mt M--SFSQLFPKYNSSFNPLRGSIAIQCSVIQLQONKVLVDGLKT---PIICFQHELKRVPIK-----
 Wheat mt MP::A::G::---R::M::D::TGL::KRATRFENKVGKNNVAVG
 E. coli :TE::A::EESLKEIETRP::IVRGV:VAIDKDV::A::SESAT:AEQ:KNAQGELE:QV-----
 -----QARFHPGIEDVEV-FGEPMKLLPKPLEIKCKRLVWIELTKIWRSDQNLVKGP
 ESLIKRIFERPFIDLVAGESLIKERRA:::NDFVQSLD:AA::L:::QRP---RQNR:::K:::T-KK:::
 -----GDEVDAALDA::DG:::T--:SR--:A::HEA::T:E:AY-E:AET:T:V
 ILNSVKGGYAVAIAGYIAFLPKS--LLRS-KVVFYSQWRI--PSILNMKPKISNIVKEIGDGKIDYFSPKSHQKQTKY
 :IKKI:::L:::FTT:::PKKA::KK--IANDR-----T:DSIN::RRD::IIAAD*-----
 :NGK:::PT:ELD:IR:::G:LVDV:PV:DTLHLEGKELE:KVIKLDQ:RN:V::SRRAVIESENSAERDQLEENLQE
 LGAKLKHWRNMKNTNVKKYIFSEKVPITKTKQGPKHLGPKPLAYTEKKRETTKQSTKNNVPQLKDQGGKSLVFPVDV
 GMEVKGIVK:LTGYGAPVDLGGVDGLLHI:DMAWKRV::PSEIVNVGD:ITVKVL:PDRERTRVS:GLKQL:EDPWVAAIA
 LTQSS-----
 KRYPECTKLTGRVTNLTDYGCFFVEIEEGVEGLVHVSEMDWTNKNHPSKVVNVGDVVEVMVLDIDEERRRISLGLKQCKA

 NPWQQAETHNKGDRVEGKIKSITDFGIFIGLDGGIDGLVHLSDISWNVAGEEAVREYKKGDEIAAVVLQVDAERERISL

 GVKQLAEDPFNNWVALNKKCAIVTGKVTAVDAKGATVBLADGVEGYLRASEASRDRVEDATLVLSVGDEVEAKPTGVDRK

 ----- 270
 ----- 170 43.6%(58/133)
 NRAISLSVRKDEADEKDAIATVKNQEDANPSNNAMAEAPKAARGE 557 23.7%(64/270)

(b) *rps2*

Liverwort mt MYNSNLLVIQKLLSTNAYLGHRIPSTDFQGYLYGFRNEMAIIDLEKTLICLRRTCNLIGSIISAKGH-LLLVNTNPE
 E. coli MATVSMRMDLAKAGVHFGHOT:YWNPKMKPFIP:A::KVH::N:::VMPNEALAELENK:A:R::K-I:P:G:KRA
 Liverwort cp MKQKSWNIH:EEMMEAGVHFGHQA:KWNPKMAP:IFTE:KGIB::N:TQ:ARF:SEA:-DLVANA:S::KQF:I:G:KYQ
 YNKIIQMAKKTNOQSYINHKWIGGFLTNWKHMKVKKHFDPSAHPNLKDAFTSSPPDYFPRPKMKQKCFE---GIMTHN
 ASEAVKDA:LSCD:PFV::R:L::M:::TVRQSI:RLK:LETQSDGTPDKLTKEALM:TEELE:LENSLG::KDMG
 AADL:ESS:L:ARCH:V:Q::L::M:::STIETRLQK:K:LENKKKTGTINRLPKREANLKRQLDHLQKYL:KYMT
 I-PDCLVIINANQNSMAILEANQLQIPALVDSNIPNRLHLKITYPVPVNDSDIKFVYLPCLNLTITVILSKRSQRPKV
 GL::A:PV:D:DHEHI::K::N:G::VF:I::T:SDPDGVDF---VI:G::A:RA:T:YLGAVAA::RE-G::DLAS
 SL::IVI::DQQKEPT::Q:CIT:G::TIC:::TDCDPDMTDI---I:A::ARASIRWIL:KL:LAICE-G:YNSI:N
 KVKRL 237
 QAEBSFVEAE 241 27.1%(64/236)
 235 22.8%(54/237)

(c) *rps3*

Liverwort mt MAQKVNPISVRLNLRSSDSWSPDYGGYKLLYQ-DLNFDRDYFGSIRPPTGNTFGFRLGRCIIHHPKRTPIHVFLDRL
 Maize :R:G:::D:::P:::V:L:S::S:::RL:::L:::F:LPR:P
 Oenothera ps :G:::D:::V:::V:L:S:::RL:::L:::F:LPR:P
 Petunia mt :R:G:::D:::V:::V:L:S:::RL:::L:::F:LPR:P
 Brassica mt :R:G:::GK:::R:::FV:::V:L:S:::RL:::L:::F:LPR:P
 E. coli :G::H:NGI::GIVKPNW:T:ANTKEFADNLDS:FKV:Q:LTKELAKASV-----SRIVIE:PAKSIRV---
 Liverwort cp :G::I::LGF::GITONHR:Y:ANKK:S:VFEE::KKI::CI--ELYVQKHKNSSNYGL:ARVEI::KTDLIQV---

SQSRHQGLGAIPSVKLIRRI-----NDNTVKQR--NEVGWIPRK--RYEYH
 LRLKRRDKSRPGKD:GRWWA-FGKVGPIOCLEHSSBGTBEERNEVGRGAGKRVESIDREKQ---:IR:::MQ::G::
 RRLKRGKKSRRPKE:ARWWE-FGKVGPIGCLHSNDDEERNEVGGGAGKRVESIRLDD:EKQ::IR:::KQ:G::
 RRLKRRKSRPVKE:GRWGA-FGKVGPIGCLHSNDGTBEERNEVGRGAGKRVESIRLDD:EKQ::IR:::KQ:G::
 RRLKRRKTRPKE:GRWWTTFGKAGPIGCLR--DDTEERNEVGRGAGKRVESIRLDD:KKQ::IRG:::KQ:G::

DLRPSIQK-IDQLLRVSDWMADIHSTFQS--IWPKDENDRRASEERYAFSRFAPSILVAVRAEKKKAIQSGEODFPQFT
 :T::RK:NFSKS:::RAFKHPKYAGVND:AFI:::SPIKTLFPK:PFLPKRSRSDG:TSHLLKRTLPAV-----
 :S:::K:NLSK:::GAFKHPKYAGVND:AFI:::SFRKTLFPK:PF-PKRSRSDGPTSHLLKRTTPAV-----
 :S:::K:NLSK:::GAFKHPKYAGIEND:AFI:::SFRKTLFPK:PF-PKRSRSDRPTSHLLKRTLPAV-----
 :T:::K:NLSKS:::GAFKHPKYGVND:AFI:::SFRKTPFK:PF-PKRSRSDGPTSYL--RTLPAV-----
 -----S-----

GRAFLDYFVMQYFPNKNQIQFDPMVN-RSPVAQVAKTSMIGKAI--PAKTEQGTQSGESICQPRSTLYPDAI-----
 -PS:N:S:::T::KMH::V:VLNHF::P::EP:TM:G:K--GSLDKRIR:RIAPFVES::SDKKCLARAKK
 -PS:N:L:::YL:T::MH::L:VLNHF::P::EP:TM:G:N-RQGRN:LRIR:RIAPFVES::SEKKSLAEDKK
 -PS:N:S:::LL:T::K:H::V:VLNHF::P::EP:TM:G:N-AQGRSLDKRIA:CIAPFVES::SEKKCLAEAKK
 -GPS:NFL:::T::MN::V:VLNHF::P:A:EP:TM:R:NGTGRSLQKIR:RIAPFVES::SEKKCLAEAKK

RLIHFIRQANDLRFAGTTKTTISLFPFPGATFPFPRDGVGVYNNPFYIAREQLLGLQLIKRNLMLGKDKVMELIEKPID
 GLPHFIRQENDLRFAGTTKTTISLFPFPGATFPFPRDGVGVYKHLFPEDAREQLLGLQLIKRNLMLGKDKVMELIEKPID
 RVTHFIRQANDLRFAGTTKTTISLFPFPGATFPFPRDGVGVYNNLFPEDAREQLLGLQLIKRNLMLGKDKVMELIEKPID
 RLTHLIRLANDLRFAGTTKTTISLFPFPGATFPFPRDGVGVYNNL--DAREQLLGLQLIKRNLMLGKDKVMELIEKPID

-----IFLRYARFRKATSLSSRYLLKKMQSLSPNQTKTNTLIQPVKIASVYQSASLIAQIEISWLEBQK
 LGRIGELIKGIEIMIE:I::KR:IPYGYN::YLNEV-Q::R:FL::R:N:::ES::K:::D::FQ:RNN
 LGGIGELIKGIEIMIE:I::NR:IPYGYN::YLNEV-Q::R:L::R:::I:ES::K:::D::FQ:RNN
 LNRIGELIRGIEIMIE:I::NR:IPYGYN::YLNEV-Q::R:LY:R:N:::ES::K:::D::FQ:RNN
 LGGIBELIKVIDMMIE:I::KRGIPYGYN::YFNEV-Q::R:FL::R:N:K:::ES::K:::D::FQ:KN
 -----TIHTARPGVIGKKG--EDVE:L-RKVADIAGVPAQ:NIAEVRKPELD:K:V:DS:TSQ::RR
 -----EIYTGFPALLVE:ROGIEQ::LNVQNILSSEDRRLRMTLIE::KP:GEPKIL:KK:AL:::SR

K-SFRQICRSIFKQIKC-P-YVKGIRIGCSGRL-NGAEIAKTECKKYGETSLHVSQIDYAKTOASTPYGILGVKVVV
 PI:::S:FSK:V:D:PLTM:KG:E:::C:::G:::R:::G:::K:::CN:::NQK:::PAEV::RD::S:::RI
 RR:::S:FSQ:V:D:PLVMKKG:E:::C:::K:::R:::G:::K:::CN:::NQK:::SAEV::R:::S:::I
 TR:::S:FSK:V:D:PLVMKKG:E:::C:::E:::R:::G:::K:::CN:::NQK:::LAEV::R:::S:::I
 RR:::HS:PAK:V:E:P::--R:E:::CF:::KDA::K:Q:K:Y:HRK::RN::NQK:::PAEV::R:::S:::I
 V-M::RAMKRAV--NAMR-L-GA:::KVEV::G:::R:::WYRE:RVP::TLRAD::NTSE:H:T:VI:::I
 V-A::RTMKKAI-ELA-K-G-NI:::K:QIA:::RV:WARE:RVP:QTIRAR:N:CYQA:Q:I::V::I

SYFLPQKGTSCAISKTYKIS 430
 :SQ-N::R--::E::E: 559 49.6%(207/417)
 :SK 550 50.4%(203/403)
 :SK-K::R--::E::E: 562 50.1%(208/415)
 :SQ-K:G:R--::E::E: 555 46.9%(194/414)
 PKGEILGMAAVEQPEKPAQPKQKQKGRK 233 25.4%(60/236)
 PQDEE 217 24.1%(53/220)

(d) *rps4*

Liverwort mt MFASRPKVCQIENVMQTKKLTQKFLISELQKQKN--KKQSDPSI--QLQTIKLSLFYGNLPIKK--MQRAKTB
 E. coli MARYLGPKLKLRRREGTD:F::SGVRAID-T:C:IEQAPG:HGARKPRLSDYGVQ:REKQKVR:YGVLER:PRNYY
 Liverwort cp MSRYRGPVRKIIIRLGA:P-GLTNKTLK:K-SGYI-NQS-TSNKK--VS:YRIR:BEKQKLRPHYGLTER:LL:YV
 TYIDKKN-----LLFNIEKRLDVILVRLNFCSTMFQARQLISEKNICVNYKKNIPQPVQSNGLDISIQENSLDPFKSN
 KEAARLKNGTGEN::ALL:G::NVVY:MG:GA:RAE:::V::A:M::GRV:::ASY:::PN:VV::R:KAKKQ--:R
 RIAR:AKGSTQGV::QLL:M:::N:IF::GMAP:IPG:::VN:RE:LI:NNT:D::SYNCKP:V:T:RDR:KSKQ--:I

Fig. 1. (cont.)

Fig. 1. (cont.)

		IRKNFQTNIRRMKPNHLEVNKTLKAVVLYEPQQIQFPYKIDLDLLD	196	
		V:-AALELAEQ:E::TW::DAGKMEGTFRK:ERSDLSAD:NEH:IVELYK	206	25.0%(49/196)
		I::--LNSPQKQKI::TFDLMOI:GL:NQIIDREWIYL::NEL:VVEYYSRQV	202	22.4%(44/196)
(e) <i>rps7</i>				
Liverwort	mt	MNLFQKSNFNCVFSSSLDWFHSSRLSEKVGTKKNRICRETESFYALCLSHRRYLCLYALEGLLPSRPRGRRASTYNCSDNL		
Wheat	mt			
<i>E. coli</i>			MPRRRVIGQ	
Liverwort	cp		MSRKSIAEK	
		GYIRGLNGKQKQIKKLVHICMIDGKKTRSRAIVYKTPHRLAPHGDVILLLVN--AIENVKPICEVKKVRISGTTTLVP		
		MCDPD:E::E::NFR::R::V:::RTERDVIR:MVD--VD:I:::V::GVA::IYD::		
		RR:LDPDPKPGSE:LA:F:N:L:V:::STAES::SALET::QRSKSE:EMAPEV:L::R:TV::SR:VG:S:YQ::		
		QVAKPDPIYRNR:VNM::NRILKN::SLAYR:L::AMKNIKQKTKKNP:F:LR-Q:VRK:T:NVT::AR::D:S:YQ::		
		SIATNRQETLAIRWMLSAAKRRMGKKSISLDQCLYAEILEASQKMGIAKKRDDLHLAEANRSFSHYRWW		
		G:V:RD::Q:::I:GA:F::--ISYR::EK::F:::D:YR:R::S::R:EN::G::ST:::A:F::		
		VEV-PV:RNA::M::IV:A:R::GDKSMALR:ANE:SD-AA:N--K:T:V:::E:V:RM:::KA:A:::LSLRSFSH		
		LE:KSTQGKA:::L:GASR::SQQNMAFK:SYE:ID-AARD--N::IR:KEET::M:::A:A:F:		
			230	
			148	58.5%(86/147)
		QAGASSKQPALGYLN	178	35.8%(57/159)
			155	29.9%(47/157)
(f) <i>rps8</i>				
Liverwort	mt	MHTLSNLLSSIRNAQAKRVLYFSSFKKISKRRKRVCSACKMMPRVFSRLCWDFCRILYNEGYIHGFSQEADG-S-L		
<i>E. coli</i>		MSMQDPIADMLTRI:NGQA:N:AAVTMPK:K:KVAIANV:KE::F:ED:KV:G:TKPE:		
Liverwort	cp	MGNDTIANMITSIRNANLGKI:TVQVPATNITRNIAKILPQEGPIDNFDNKNQNTKDI:		
		RIVLYHSSGIGV--IKKMTISKPGFRIYSSKNRLSKKREGLGITILSTSKGNLICDREAQKTNFGGGEILCQVF		
		ELT::FQ::KA:VES:Q--RV:R::L::KR:DQ:P:VMA:::AVV:::VMT:::A:RQAGL:::I:Y:A		
		ILN::--Q::KKKSY:TLRR:::L::NHKEIP:VLG:M::V:::R:IMT:::RQKKI:::L:Y:W		
			152	
			130	35.1%(46/131)
			132	26.7%(35/131)
(g) <i>rps10</i>				
Liverwort	mt	MTAKICIVIKSF-----ENQSGLLLNTRKIGLPKKQTLTYTLRSPHIDKKSREQFEMRIH		
Potato	mt	MRQRRLRRVSQKERPPKVT:T::G::R::DHPPL::HFW::PPY:::ESRV:::F:K:K		
<i>E. coli</i>		MQNQRIRIRLK:PDHRL:DQATAEIV:TAKRTGAQVRGP:P:TKERP::I::VN:DA:D:Y:I:T:		
		RQLLV-IETETHKLREKLNWLKLHDLGLGVQVKIIFYQTRLDKVCKS	102	
		:EP:::K::R:E::K:FPRLKRRATRT	108	58.3%(49/84)
		L-R::D:VEP:E:TVDA:MR:D:AAGVD::ISLG	103	31.5%(28/89)
(h) <i>rps11</i>				
Liverwort	mt	MQKR-----HCITNMQKHKCITYIQSTFGNTIITLTDYNGNTKTWSSSGSVGPKGSRRTNYAAQATA-ENAAVAIQLG		
<i>E. coli</i>		:A:APIRARKRV-RK:VSDGVAB:HAS:N::V:I::RQ::ALG:ATA:GS::R::K:PF:::V:AGRC:DAVKEY:		
Liverwort	cp	:P:SVKKINLRKGRRLPKGVH:AS:N::V:V::IR:QVVS::A:AC::TKK:PP:::A::I:IL:DQ:		
		PKFVEVRIKGLGYGKSSSLRGLKGLGIITKIRDVTPTPHNGCRPPKRRV	125	
		I:NL::MV::P:P:R::TI:A:NAA:FR::N:T:::I::::	129	48.0%(60/125)
		M:QA::M:S:P:P:RDTA::AIRRS:I:LSFV:::M:::R:::	130	48.8%(61/125)

Fig. 1. (cont.)

		(i) <i>rps12</i>		
Liverwort	mt	MPTMNQLVRRGREGSKRRTRTRALNKCPOKQGVCLRVSTRSPKKNSALRKIAVRILTNRNEIAYIPGEGHNLQEHSVV		
Maize	mt	:::K:::I:H:::E:::D:::DQ:::T:::S:::HD:F:::I:		
Wheat	mt	:::K:::I:H:::E:::D:::DQ:::T:::S:::HD:F:::I:		
<i>Oenothera</i>	nc	FA:::I:H:::E:H:SD:K:::G:::T:::G:::S:::DVF:::M:		
<i>E. coli</i>		:A:V:::P:AR:VAKSNV::EA:::R::T::Y:TT:::VCR:::GF:V:S::G:::I		
Liverwort	cp	:::IQ:::I:NK:QPIENRTKSP::KG:::RR:::T::Y:TT:::R:::SGP::T:::I::::		
		MVRGGRVQDLPGVYHCIRGVKDLQGIPGRRGRSKYGTGKPKDYI	126	
		L:::K:::E:::L:::D:::K:::AER::SK	125	80.8%(101/125)
		L:::K:::E:::L:::D:::K:::AER::SK	125	80.8%(101/125)
		L:::K:::E:::L:::D:::K:::AER::ST	125	79.2%(99/125)
		LI:::K:::R::TV::AL:CS:VKD:KQA:::V:R::A	124	62.1%(77/124)
		L:::K:::R::I:::TL:AV:VKD:QO:::V::S:	123	64.2%(79/123)
(j) <i>rps13</i>				
Liverwort	mt	MSYILGTLNLSNKKVQKIALTRIFGIGPKKAIQVCDQLGLSDTIKVNKLTKYQPDQILKIIISQNYLVDSSELKRVIQRDIKR		
Wheat	mt	:::S:ARSLPDE::R::S:KMD:::LRYR::I:GN::M:E:::I::EQM:A:DHV:HW:::GERA::E:		
Maize	mt	:::S:ARSLPDE::R::S:KMD:::LRYR::I:GN::IHE:::I::EQM:A:DHV:HW:::GERA::E:		
Tobacco	mt	:L::S:AR:VGDE::R::S:K:D:::R:YR::I:GN::IKE:::I::EQM:A:DHV:HW:::GERA::E:		
<i>Oenothera</i>	mt	:::S:AR:VADE::R::S:KMD:::R:SR::--GN:RKE:::I::EQMRG:DHV:HW:::GERA::ER		
<i>E. coli</i>		VAR:A:I:IPDH:HAV:::S:Y:V:KTRSKAILAAA:IAEDV:ISE:SEG:I:TLRDEVAK-FV:EGD:R:E:SMS::		
		LISIGCYRCPHNAAGLPLRGQRTHTNARTCKRLRYVSIRS	120	
		:::SR:::I::QD:S:::R:A::QIWK	116	57.8%(67/116)
		:::SR:::I::QD:S:::R:A::QIWKGNRRRLPKEQATD	129	55.0%(66/120)
		:::S:::I::QD:S:::R:::IWK	116	61.2%(71/116)
		E:::S:::I::QD:::S:::R:S::RIRK	114	56.0%(65/116)
		:MDL:::L::RR::V:::R::R::--GPRKP:KR	118	38.3%(46/120)
(k) <i>rps14</i>				
Liverwort	mt	MSNQ--IIRDHKRRLLVAKYELKRMHYKAIQDRNLPNKIRYEFFKLSKLPNRSKTRVNRNRCIFT		
Broad bean	mt	:::EKR-N:::A:::R:KL::P:K:SD::SDMWDLKRY:::FA:::S:		
<i>Oenothera</i>	mt	:::EKR-N:::T:::KL::F:N:PA::SDM:DKHRY:::FA:::I:		
<i>Arabidopsis</i>	pe	:::KQ-NS:::A::F:R:KL::F:K:PD::SDM:DKHCY:::FA:::I/		
<i>Brassica</i>	mt	:::EKQ-NS:::A::F:R:KL::F:K:PD::SDM:DKHRY:::FA:::I/		
Yeast	nc	MGNFRFPKIKLPPGFINA:L:NPK:QOPKEN:ILVKS:L:F:ARNM::T:L:L:AQL:NA::NYMRS:QIK::VDS		
<i>E. coli</i>		:AK:SMKA:EV::VA:AD::PA::ABL::IS:V:ASDED:WNAVL::QT::D:PS:Q:::RQ:		
Liverwort	cp	:AKSL:Q:EK::QN:EK::KIL:NSL:KKITETSSLDKRW-FQK::QS:::AP::LHR::FL:		
		GRPRSUYKLFIRISRVFRELASKGSLIGINKSCW	99	
		:::E:::S:::R:P:M::K::S:	100	69.7%(69/99)
		:::E:::G:::R::M::K::S:	99	70.4%(69/98)
		:::SEP:::G:::R::M::S:	100	68.7%(68/99)
		:::SEP:::Y:::G::YR::M::K::S:	100	64.6%(64/99)
		:HA:F:LSD::LC:YQ::N:L:N:P:VK:GI:	114	37.4%(37/99)
		:::HGFLRK:GL::KV:A:MR:QIP:LK:G	99	43.3%(42/97)
		:::KAN:RD:GL::HLL:M:HACL:P:VT::S:	100	38.4%(38/99)
(l) <i>rps19</i>				
Liverwort	mt	MTR-SIWKGPFDVT-----CLPKQKKIRWIRSRSCILPQFVGCYAIYNGKGFVGLKITEHVMVGHKPGFPASTRK		
<i>Petunia</i>	mt	:P:R:::S:::AFLLRMKKR--DLPNRK:::S::E::D:EVR:::T::RC:::GK:::F::		
<i>Oenothera</i>	ps	:P:R:::S:::AFLLRMKKR--DLPNRK:::S::E::D:EVR:::T::RC:::GK:::F::		
<i>E. coli</i>		:P:::LK:::I:LHLLAKKVEKAVESGD:KPL:T:::T:P:NMI:LTIAVB:RQH:PVFV:D:::L::P::T		
Liverwort	cp	:::K:::ADHLLKKIENLNL:KE:KIIIT::A:T:V:TMI:HTIAVB:QEHLPIY::DR:::L::P::T		
		TSSLGKRALPSKTKIKPIKKVR	93	
		RRPSRTNIG:GKRG:K	94	54.1%(46/85)
		RRGSRTNIGLGRKG:K	94	49.4%(42/85)
		YRGAADKKAK:K	92	41.7%(35/84)
		FRGHA:NDKK:RR	92	42.9%(36/84)

Fig. 1. (cont.)

(m) *rpl2*

Liverwort mt MRNSCWGKALKQLTFHLKRNAGRNSSGRITVPHRGGSKRLQKIDFKRSTSS-MGIVER
E. coli MAVKCKPTSPGRRHVVKV:PELHKGKPPAPLLEKNSK:G::NN:::TR:I:::H:QAY:IV:::NKDGIPAV:::
 Liverwort cp MAIRLYRAYTPGTRNRSVPKFDIVKQCPQKRLTYN:HIKK:::NR:I:::SQ:::H::Y:::Q:NKKYIT:KIKT
 IEYDPNRSWIALVRWIEGVLRLPGKRLAFSKANSRREKNMFFPGLLFSPSSLPRQAQRIKYEKTRALRCPCEQILESSWVL
 L:::AN:::LYKD:ER:-----
 :::::NTY:C:INVED:EK:-----
 GTRDLRAKEVSLGPLGSFLGLPSIAVAGAKPAFFAFPMKGPSSLTGRERLSPLRGENTFSQSECQRWKTQSGAPRRKSLV

 LWSQGGPKARNGLMISANDIGKKDRRPEMAGPHTIPEHAPRALHVGPSGSGRVLRTSEPFYILASENLEVGNVTVMNFH

 GSKPSTLLNYHQPSQKANDPSGLRVEETAWSQAWLHPRGDYASSENKYILDSYYQMGVNCIPLAKIPIGTWVNIERNP
 -----YI:A:K:LK:GDQIQSGV:AAIKP:::TL:MRN::V:ST:::V:MK:
 -----YI:Y:R:IKLDDTIISSEEAPILI:::TL::TNM:L:AI:::IT:
 GQGAKLTRAAGTFAQIIQKVENTPQIVRLPSGVDKLIDSRCRATIGIVSNLHGKRRKFNKAGQSRWLGRRPVIRGVAMN
 :K:GQ:A:S:::YV:VAR-DGA-YVTL:R:EMRKVEAD:::L:E:G:AE:ML:VLG::AA:R:V::T::T::
 :K:GQ:V:::V:K:A:::GQ-LVTL:::EIR:SQK:L:::QIG:VDVNNLRIG::SK:::K::K:::V::
 PVDHPHGCGEGRTKGRPS-VSPWGKPTKGGFKTVVRKRN 501
 :::::NP:KH:::T::VQ:::K::RSN::TDKPIVRRRSK 273 44.8%(112/250)
 :I:::API::KKPLT::H:AL:KRSRKN:YSDTLILRRRKNS 277 43.2%(108/250)

(n) *rpl5*

Liverwort mt MFSPNRRLEPHYQVIRPDLKINYENIMEVPRCKIIV--VPKAPSNF--IKNVKLAMEIVCGQKFIQTRSRGST
Arabidopsis mt MFP:N::ED:L:Q:::L:A:V:::G:L:E:R:::Y:::I::G:::P:::Q:::
Oenothera mt MFP:N::ED:L:Q:::L:A:V:::G:L:E:RI:::TS:TYDFI::G:::LR:::E:::
Brassica mt MFP:N::ED:S:Q:P::NRITPTLWKPLGS:E:R:::NG:Y:::I::G:::PR:::Q:::
E. coli MAK:HDY:KDEVVK:MTEP::NSV:Q::VE:TLNMG:GE:IADK-KLLD:AAADLAAIS::PLI:KA:K:V
 GKSPFNKPVNLQESKRDTCYVTVLAR-STLRGHIMYNPLEKLVTIISFYDYPVKIQKNSIQL----SMATSLRLPPE
 ::::S:P:::LG:NK:K::SD::Q:::G:S::VRIL:VM:LL:P:E:R:::F:::E:EPCEPS:
 ::::S:P:::L:NK:K::SD::Q:::G:S::VRIL:VM:LL:SW:E:WE:::P:::E:EPCEPS:
 ::::S:P:::LG:NK:K::SD::Q:::G:S::SVRIS:VM:LL:P:E:R:::F:::E:EPCEPA:Q
 AG-----I:Q:::PIGCKV:::QR:WE:P:R:I::AVPRIADFRGLSAKSPDGRGDY::GVREQII::
 IQDHFPEIPEHIRGPDVTIVTSANTQDETIVLWSGFLQKEV 188
 LE:::N:::I:::L:::DEGETQ 185 68.7%(123/179)
 LE:::R:N:::LL:::DEGESFKWKT 192 64.8%(116/179)
 L:::N:::LP:::DEGETQ 185 60.9%(109/179)
 -:YDKVDRV::L:I::T:KSDE:GRA:LAA:DPPFRK 179 28.6%(52/182)

(o) *rpl6*

Liverwort mt MSRVAKAPVVVPAGVDVVRINGQVITIKGNGELTRTLNDAVEVKHADNTLTGPRDGYADGWAQAGTARALLNSMVIGVT ME
E. coli AKFPFCLEIIGVGYKASTNAQGSILYLKLPFSHEIRLQVTPSVRVFCLKPNLICCTGMDHCKVTPQAAIVKSCPKPEVYK
 ED:TKK::LV:::R:AVK--:NVIN:S:::PVDH:LPAGITAE:PTQTE:VLK:A:R:VIG:V::DLRAYRR::P::
 GKGIQYRNEIHKKGKKK 101
 ::VR:AD:VVRT:EA:: 177 36.6%(37/101)

(p) *rpl16*

Liverwort mt VLYPKRTKPRRYQKGRCK-GCKADGTQLCPGKYGIKSCE
 Maize mt MEKHLVMYLTRKSIIMLLRKYLLVTEFQVSKCGSHIVKIRRD:::YS::S:C::SR:REP:::G::R:::SR
Oenothera mt :::::YS::R:::SR:EP:::S::R:::R
Petunia ps MLLRKYLLVTES:VSKCGPLIVKKRRD:::YS::R:::SR::P:::G::R:::R
Brassica mt MYLTRKSIIMLLRKYLLVTESQVSKCGPHIVKKKGD:::S:::SR::P:::K:G::R:::T:::R
E. coli M:Q:::MH::NR::L:Q::DVS::SF:L:AVG
 Liverwort cp M:S:::QHC:NL:::ISTR:NVI:::PPLQAL:
 AGRISYQATIAARRAISRK-F-----RRNSKIWVRVADIPITSKPAEVRMGKGGKNTGWIARVLKGOILFEMDCV
 ::L::R:::TIQQ::RRAMSGQF::C:::L::L::G:::R:::PT:::ST:::P:::G:
 ::L::R:::TIQQ::RRAMSGQF::C:::L::L::G:::R:::PT:::ST:::P:::G:
 ::L::R:::IGH::RRAMSGQF::G:::W:::G:::T:::R:::PT:::ST:::P:::G:
 ::L::R:::TIQHS:RRAMSGQF::C:::L::L::G:::R:::PT:::ST:::P:::G:
 R::LTARQ:::MT:A-V-----K:QG::I::P:K::E:LA:::VEY:V:LIQ:KV:Y::G:
 PSW:TSRQ::G:::T:Y-A-----GG:L:I:I:P:K::IR::T::S:::SPEY:V:V:K:K::Y:ISG:
 SLSNAQQAATLAHKLGLSIFPKFWS 135
 ::::R::R:::PCS:T::VQ:: 185 71.9%(97/135)
 ::::R:::C:::T::VQ:: 144 78.5%(106/135)
 ::::R::LH 155 78.2%(93/119)
 ::A::R::R:::PCS:T::VQ:: 177 74.2%(98/132)
 PEEL:RE:FK::A::PIRT:VTKTVM 136 50.4%(68/135)
 :ENI:RA:MKI::Y:MPIRTQ:ITT:SLNKKQEI 143 45.9%(62/135)

Fig. 1. Amino acid alignments of r-proteins deduced from the liverwort mitochondrial DNA sequence, with counterparts from *E. coli*, the liverwort chloroplasts, and angiosperm mitochondria. Amino acids are denoted by their 1-letter symbols. Numbers at the ends of sequences indicate the numbers of amino acid residues. Identical amino acids are designated by a colon. Dashes are, assumed deletions, introduced to maximize the matchings of the sequences. Amino acid residues corrected for RNA editing are underlined (Gonzalez *et al.*, 1993; Hunt and Newton, 1991; Sutton *et al.*, 1993; Bock *et al.*, 1994; Zhuo and Bonen, 1993; Gualberto *et al.*, 1989; Wissinger *et al.*, 1990; Schuster *et al.*, 1990a; Brandt *et al.*, 1993; Schuster and Brennicke, 1991; Conklin and Hanson, 1991; Schuster, 1993). Arrowheads specify the sites of intron insertion.

Organization of liverwort mitochondrial r-protein genes

Most of the genes for r-proteins in the liverwort mitochondrial genome were organized into a cluster (*rps10-rpl2-rps19-rps3-rpl16-rpl5-rps14-rps8-rpl6-rps13-rps11-rps1*) similar to that seen in *E. coli* r-protein operons S10 (S10-L3-L4-L23-L2-S19-L22-S3-L16-L29-S17) (Zurawski and Zurawski, 1985), *spc* (L14-L24-L5-S14-S8-L6-L18-S5-L30-L15-*secY-X*) (Cerretti *et al.*, 1983) and α (S13-S11-S4-*rpoA-L17*) (Bedwell *et al.*, 1985). An additional cluster (*rps12-rps7*) had the same order as the homologous genes in the *E. coli* *str* operon (S12-S7-*fus*) (Post and Nomura, 1980). Genes for *rps4* and *rps2* were located elsewhere in the liverwort mitochondrial genome. A large cluster of r-protein genes has not been found in the

Fig. 1. (cont.)

mitochondrial genomes of the other organisms, whereas a very similar clustered organization of r-protein genes exists in chloroplast genomes (Ohyama *et al.*, 1986; Shinozaki *et al.*, 1986; Hiratsuka *et al.*, 1989). The organization of the r-protein gene clusters in liverwort mtDNA was compared with those of the liverwort chloroplast and *E. coli* genomes (Fig. 2). Several r-protein genes that are present in *E. coli* operons were not found in the liverwort mitochondrial genome, whereas the *rps1* gene (which is not located in the *E. coli* S10-*spc*- α or *str* operons) was found in the liverwort cluster. Nevertheless, organization and order of respective genes were very similar in these three genomes. This finding strongly supports the endosymbiont hypothesis, which postulated that the organelles of eukaryotes originated from prokaryotic (specifically eubacterial) ancestors in evolution (Gray *et al.*, 1989).

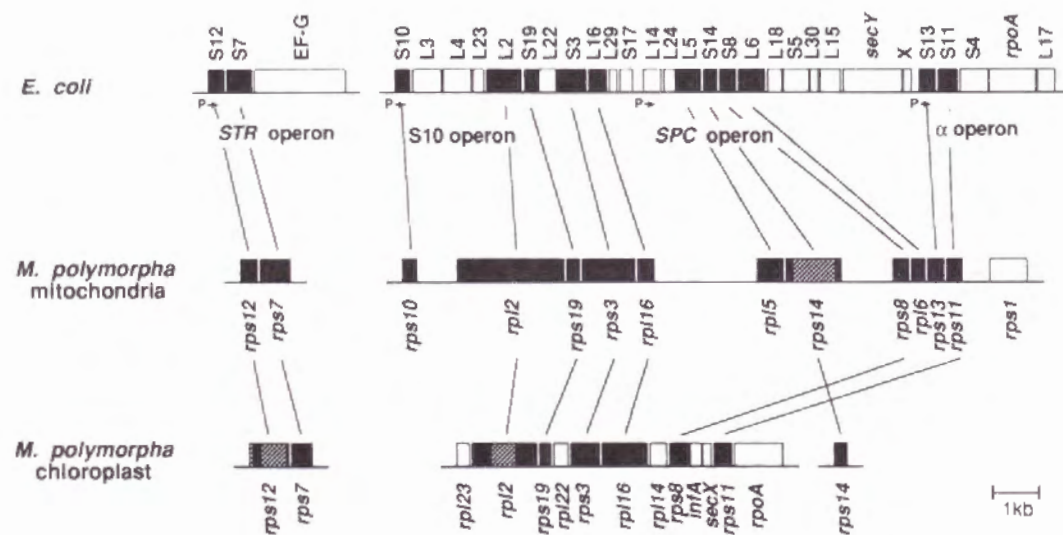


Fig. 2. Organization of r-protein genes in *E. coli*, liverwort mitochondrial and liverwort chloroplast genomes. Solid boxes indicate the common genes detected between the liverwort mitochondrial genome and either the liverwort chloroplast or *E. coli* genomes. Hatched boxes are genes having introns. Open boxes in *E. coli* and the liverwort chloroplast genome indicate genes that are absent in liverwort mitochondrial genome (except that the *rps1* gene appears only in the liverwort mitochondrial genome in this comparison).

In the mitochondrial genomes of angiosperms, ten genes for r-proteins are identified so far. Differed from the case of the liverwort mitochondria, genes for *rps12*, *rps13* and *rps14* are closely linked to non-ribosomal protein genes (Fig. 3) (Gualberto *et al.*, 1988; Suzuki *et al.*, 1991; Bland *et al.*, 1986; Schuster and Brennicke 1987a; Bonen, 1987; Wissinger *et al.*, 1990; Wahleithner and Wolstenholme, 1988; Schuster *et al.*, 1990a). For example, *nad3* and *rps12* genes are co-transcribed in the wheat, maize and rice mitochondrial genomes (Gualberto *et al.*, 1988; Suzuki *et al.*, 1991). On the other hand, maize mitochondrial *rps3* and *rpl16* genes are not only closely linked but even overlap, as did the liverwort *rps3* and *rpl16* genes. Such *rps3-rpl16* gene clusters are also found in the mitochondria genomes of *Brassica*, *Oenothera*, and *Petunia*, although the *Oenothera rps3* and *Petunia rpl16* genes are thought to be pseudo genes. Especially in *Brassica* (Ye *et al.*, 1993), more two r-protein genes, *rpl5* and *rps14*, are clustered and their organization is similar to those within the *E. coli* S10-*spc* operon and the liverwort mitochondrial cluster. In *Oenothera* and *Petunia*, *rps19* genes are also found in the clusters (*rps19-rps3-rps16*) which have quite similar organizations to those of the liverwort mitochondrial genome and *E. coli* S10 operon (Bock *et al.*, 1994; Sutton *et al.*, 1993).

While the liverwort *rps3* gene analyzed here shows a classic ATG codon, no ATG is encoded in the *rpl16* gene at the beginning of the sequence similarity with other organisms. There is a termination codon (TAA) at 24 bp upstream of GTG (valine) at the beginning of the homology (Fig. 4). This finding raises the possibility that the GUG (valine) codon rather than an internal ATG is used for translation initiation of the *rpl16* gene in the liverwort. The maize (Hunt and Newton, 1991) and *Brassica* (Ye *et al.*, 1993) *rpl16* genes encode three and two in-frame ATG codons further upstream that could also serve as initiation codons, respectively. On the other hand, in the case of *Oenothera* (Bock *et al.*, 1994), a termination codon (TAA) is found at 9 bp upstream and a in-frame ATG codon is absent. Since GTG at that position is conserved in the other plants maize, *Oenothera* and *Brassica*, this GTG codon is also considered as translation initiation codon in the liverwort.

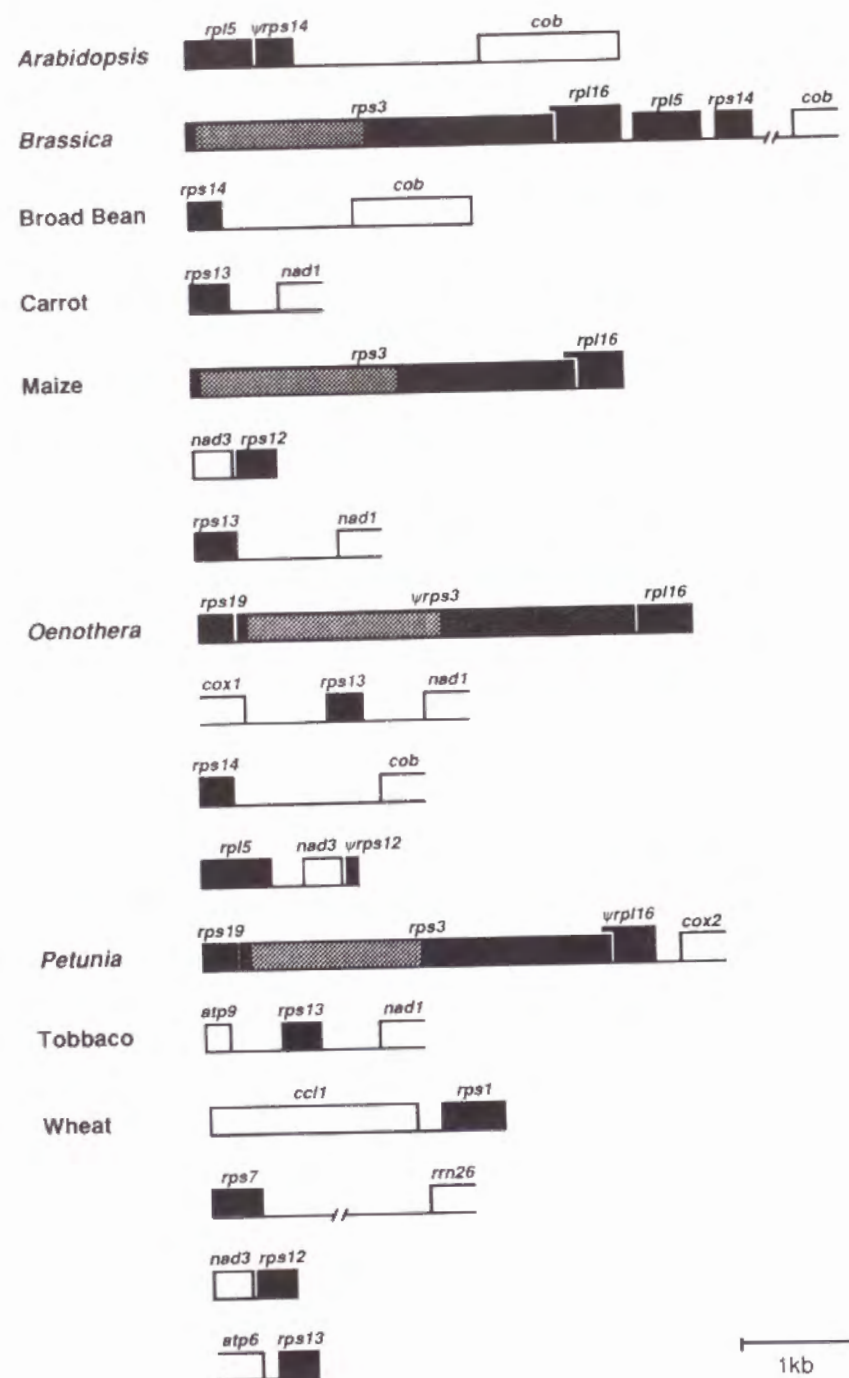


Fig. 3. Organization of r-protein genes in angiosperm mitochondrial genomes. Solid boxes and open boxes indicated r-protein genes and non r-protein genes, respectively. Hatched boxes are genes having introns.

S3	T E C K K Y G E T S L H V F S D Q I D Y A K
Liverwort	— ACTGAATGCAAAAAGTACGGTGAACATCTTTACATGTTTTTCCGATCAAATTGATTATGCGAA
Maize	— ACTGAATGCGGAAAGTATGGAAAAACATCTTGTATGTATTTAACAGAAAAATCGATTATCTCC
S3	T E C G K Y G K T S C N V F N Q K I D Y A P
L16	M E K H L V M Y L T R K S I M L L
S3	T Q A S T P Y G I L G V K V W V S Y F L T Q K
Liverwort	AACACAAGCATCTACTCCTTATGGAATCTTAGGTGTCAAAGTGTGGGTTTCATATTTTAAACACAAA
Maize	TGCGGAAGTATCTACTCGTGACGGAATTCAGGTGTCAAAGTGTGGGATCTCATATAGTCAA---AATA
S3	A E V S T R D G I S G V K V R I S Y S Q N K
L16	R K Y L L V T E F Q V S K C G S H I V K
L16	V L Y P K R T K F R K Y Q K G R C
S3	K G G T S C A I S K A T Y K I S
Liverwort	AAAAAGGGACAAGTTGTCCTATATCCAAACGTACAAAATTTCGTAATATCAAAAAGGCAGATG—
Maize	AGAAGGGA-----CTGCTATATCCGAACGTACGAAATATAGTAAATATAGTAAATGCAGATG—
S3	K G R A I S E T Y E I
L16	I R R D V L Y P K R T K Y S K Y S K C R C

Fig. 4. Overlapping regions of *rps3* and *rpl16* genes in liverwort and maize mitochondrial genomes. Amino acids are denoted by their 1-letter symbols. Black boxes indicate initiation codons (GUG) in both liverwort and maize *rpl16* genes. Three inframe ATG codons in maize are boxed. Termination codon (TAA) 24 bp upstream from the initiation codon in liverwort *rpl16* gene is underlined.

The liverwort *rpl2* gene has one group II intron of 775 bp, while the counterparts of higher plants have no introns. The *rps14* gene is also interrupted by a 896 bp group II intron in the liverwort mitochondria, though no introns have been reported for those of angiosperms. In contrast, the *rps3* genes of higher plants studied so far contain one intron and the insertion sites of these introns are the same among them (Hunt and Newton, 1991; Ye *et al.*, 1993; Sutton *et al.*, 1993; Bock *et al.*, 1994). There may be two possibilities for such differences of the intron contents. One possibility is that these introns had been present in the last common ancestor of bryophytes and angiosperms and then were got lost from one or the other. The other is that each gene has acquired introns independently after the divergence of them.

Overall, the organization of r-protein genes is much different in liverwort and angiosperms mtDNAs. Indications are that r-protein gene organization has undergone drastic changes in the mitochondrial genome of angiosperms in the course of evolution, probably as a result of recombination events (Palmer and Shields,

1984) as well as gene transfer into nuclear DNA (Stern and Lonsdale, 1982). On the other hand, there is apparently no homologous recombination through directly repeated sequences in the liverwort mitochondrial genome, suggesting that this genome retains the primitive form (Oda *et al.*, 1992a). It is possible that the mitochondrial genomes of angiosperms do not encode as many r-protein genes as the liverwort mitochondrial genome, in spite of the much larger average size of the former.

Inferred characteristics of liverwort mitochondrial r-proteins

Interestingly, whereas liverwort chloroplast r-proteins were similar in size to their *E. coli* counterparts, liverwort mitochondrial r-proteins L2, S3, S7 and S8 were larger than their counterparts in *E. coli* (Fig. 1m, 1c, 1e, and 1f, respectively). Moreover, r-protein S3 in angiosperm mitochondria appeared to be much larger than that its liverwort mitochondrial homologue (Table 3.) (Hunt and Newton, 1991; Ye *et al.*, 1993; Sutton *et al.*, 1993). However, liverwort and angiosperm S3 amino acid sequences deduced from the corresponding mtDNA sequences showed a high degree of similarity with each other in the N-terminal and C-terminal regions (Fig. 1c). On the other hand, the wheat S7 protein is much smaller than its counterparts from liverwort mitochondria and slightly shorter than those of *E. coli* and liverwort chloroplast. In the case of yeast mitochondrial r-protein (L8) (encoded by nuclear genome), the N-terminal region is homologous to *E. coli* r-protein L17 while the C-terminal region shows similarity to that of *E. coli* S13 r-protein (Kitakawa *et al.*, 1990). It has been postulated that the yeast L8 protein gene might have arisen as the result of fusion of genes for L17 and S13 proteins (Kitakawa *et al.*, 1990). However, the extra portions of liverwort mitochondrial L2, S3, S7, and S8 proteins showed no similarity to any other known r-proteins. Therefore, it is possible that their genes may be products of fusion with genes for uncharacterized r-proteins, or they may simply be unusually large as a consequence of insertions. In either case, extra segments of the proteins may be removed by post-translational processing during the assembly of ribosome particles.

Table 3. Sizes of ribosomal proteins from liverwort mitochondria, *E. coli*, angiosperm mitochondria, and liverwort chloroplast genomes.

Protein	Liverwort mt	<i>E. coli</i>	Angiosperm mt	Liverwort cp
S 1	270	557	170	-
2	237	241		235
3	430	233	550-562	217
4	196	206		202
7	230	178	148	155
8	152	130		132
10	102	103	108	-
11	125	129		130
12	126	124	125	123
13	120	118	114-129	-
14	99	99	99-100	100
19	93	92	94	92
L 2	501	273		277
5	188	179	185-192	-
6	101	177		-
16	135	136	144-185	143

Numbers indicate amino acid residues.

Ribosomal proteins S1 and L6 in liverwort mitochondria appeared to be smaller than their counterparts in *E. coli*, lacking the C and N terminal portions of *E. coli* S1 and L6 r-proteins (Fig. 1a and 1o, respectively). Wheat S1 is much smaller than the liverwort S1 and is only about one-third the size of the *E. coli* counterparts (Gonzalez *et al.*, 1993). The missing portions of these proteins may not play an important role in ribosome assembly and function. However, the presence of "extra" and "missing" portions of liverwort mitochondrial r-proteins must remain an inference until direct sequencing of the mitochondrial r-proteins themselves has been performed.

Evolutionary events of organelle gene transfer into the nuclear genome

It has been shown that ribosomes in *E. coli* contain over 50 distinct r-proteins.

Genes for 16 and 20 species of r-proteins have now been detected in the liverwort mitochondrial and chloroplast genomes, respectively. The remainder are assumed to be encoded by the nuclear genome. It is of interest that 11 genes (*rps12*, *rps7*, *rpl2*, *rps19*, *rps3*, *rpl16*, *rps14*, *rps8*, *rps11*, *rps4*, and *rps2*) were found to be encoded by both organelle genomes. Similarly homologous genes are known to exist in chloroplast and mitochondrial genomes for subunits of NADH dehydrogenase (*nad* genes in mitochondria, *ndh* genes in chloroplast) and ATP synthase (*atp* genes) (Ohyama *et al.*, 1991). It is unlikely that such common genes are maintained in the two organelle genomes by chance. In the plant kingdom, endosymbiosis of a chloroplast ancestor is thought to have followed that of a mitochondrial ancestor. Thus many genes of the mitochondrial genome must already have been transferred into the nuclear genome by the time of the endosymbiotic event that gave rise to the chloroplast ancestor. Since then, additional migration of both chloroplast and mitochondrial genes to nuclear genome is presumed to have taken place. It is conceivable that there may have been duplication of mitochondrial genes already encoded by the nuclear genome at the time the chloroplast genome was being established, with one copy subsequently acquiring the signal peptide sequence necessary to transport the encoded r-protein into the chloroplast. In that case, the homologous chloroplast gene could simply have been lost, rather than being transferred to the nucleus. However, this is only a speculation for the present.

Transcriptions of the *rps2* and *rps4* genes in liverwort mitochondria

RNA blot analysis was carried out using oligonucleotide probes specific to either *rps2* or *rps4* as shown in Fig. 5A. In the case of *rps2*, multiple transcripts of 6.0 kb, 3.5 kb, 3.0 kb and 1.8 kb were detected (Fig. 5B, lane 1). Three smaller RNA species, 3.5 kb, 3.0 kb and 1.8 kb, hybridized with the many other ribosomal protein sequences (see below). They are identical in size to either 18S rRNA or 26S rRNA and thus were most likely the rRNAs, which were identified due to spurious cross-hybridization of either *rps2* or the other r-protein gene sequences. Nevertheless, at least the 6.0 kb transcript was specific for *rps2*. This transcript could contain the

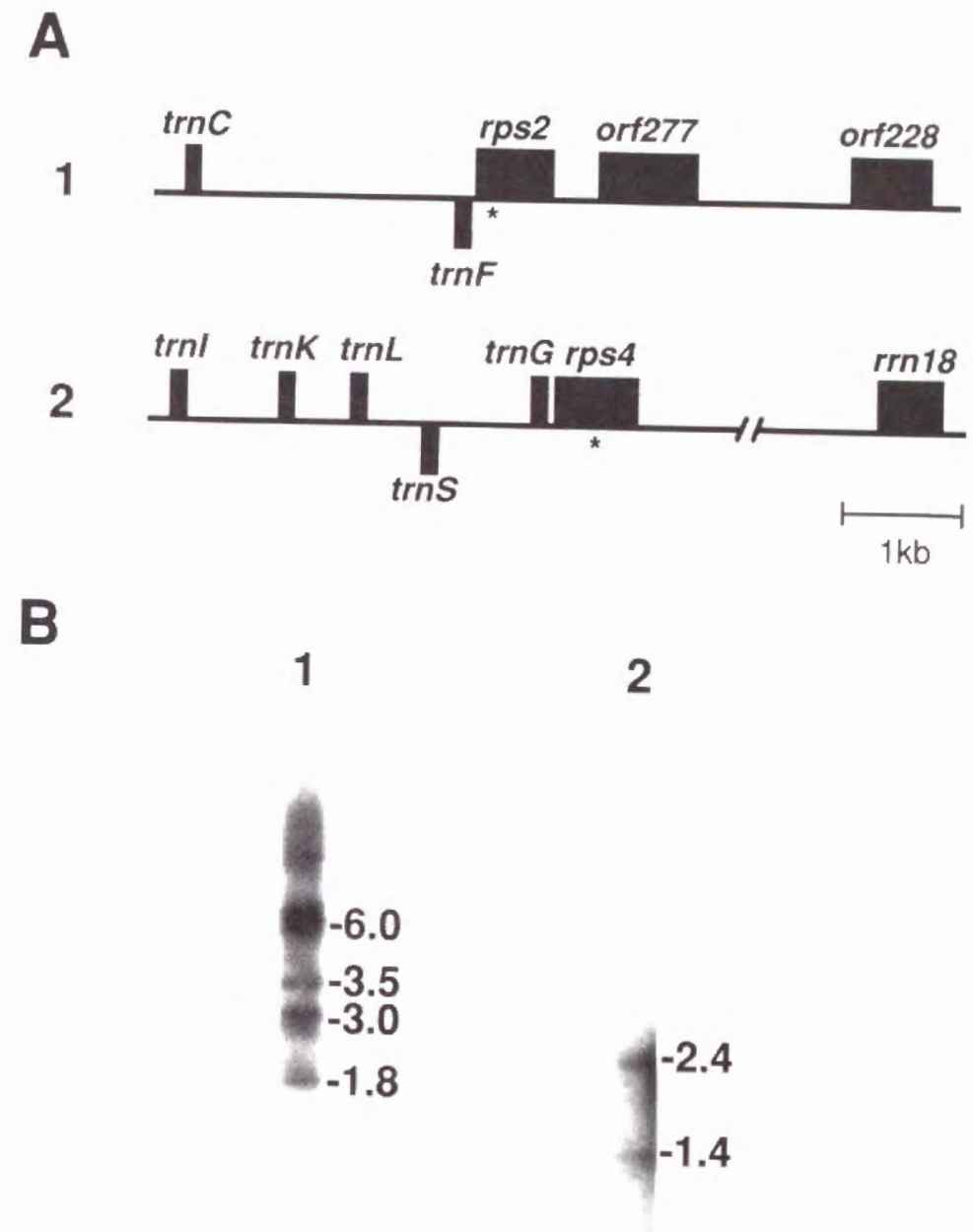


Fig. 5A, B. Transcription analysis of the liverwort *rps2* and *rps4*. **A** Gene organization of the liverwort *rps2* and *rps4* genes. Lane1, *rps2* and lane 2, *rps4*. The genes beneath the horizontal lines are oriented in the opposite direction to the genes above the lines. Each probes is shown by an asterisk under the gene organization. **B** Northern hybridization was performed by the probes specific to lane 1, *rps2* and lane 2, *rps4* genes. The size of each transcripts is indicated by a number given in kilobases (kb).

coding region of *rps2* (714 bp) and was too large to cover those of *orf277* and *orf228* located approximately 0.3 kb and 2.4 kb downstream from *rps2*, respectively. However, Northern analysis using the probes specific to both *orfs* revealed that there were no signals (data not shown), suggesting that these *orfs* may not be transcribed or may be transcribed at very low levels, and that *rps2* is transcribed independently of them.

When probed with an oligonucleotide complementary to *rps4*, two major bands of 2.4 kb and 1.4 kb were observed (Fig. 5B, lane 2). Both transcripts are able to cover its coding region (591 bp), but could not contain *rrn18* located about 4.6 kb downstream from *rps4*. In addition, such signals as 2.4 kb and 1.4 kb were not detected using a probe specific for *trnG* located 30 bp upstream of *rps4* (data not shown). These findings indicate that *rps4* is transcribed individually. The heterogeneity of transcript size might be resulted from RNA processing and/or multiple transcription initiation sites as reported in maize mitochondria (Mulligan *et al.*, 1988a; Mulligan *et al.*, 1988b).

Co-transcription of the *rps12* and *rps7* in liverwort mitochondria

To study the expression of the *rps12* and *rps7* which were organized into a cluster, oligonucleotide probes specific for them were prepared (Fig. 6A). Northern blot analysis showed these genes to be transcribed in liverwort mitochondria (Fig. 6B). A large transcript of about 7.0 kb was detected with probes from both of them. This indicated that *rps12* and *rps7* were co-transcribed in a primary transcript of 7.0 kb. Three smaller RNA, 3.5 kb, 3.0 kb and 1.8 kb hybridized with *rps12* probe, but they were probably rRNAs which cross-hybridized fortuitously as described above (Fig. 6B, lane 1). On the other hand, one more major band of 3.0 kb was found with a probe for *rps7* (Fig. 6B, lane 2). The 7.0 kb transcripts were much larger than the coding regions of *rps12* and *rps7* (1,070 bp in total), suggesting that they were co-transcribed with additional genes downstream and/or upstream. To examine this possibility, Northern blot analysis using probes complementary to *atp6* and *ψcob* which were located 1.1 kb and 2.4 kb downstream from *rps7*, respectively, were

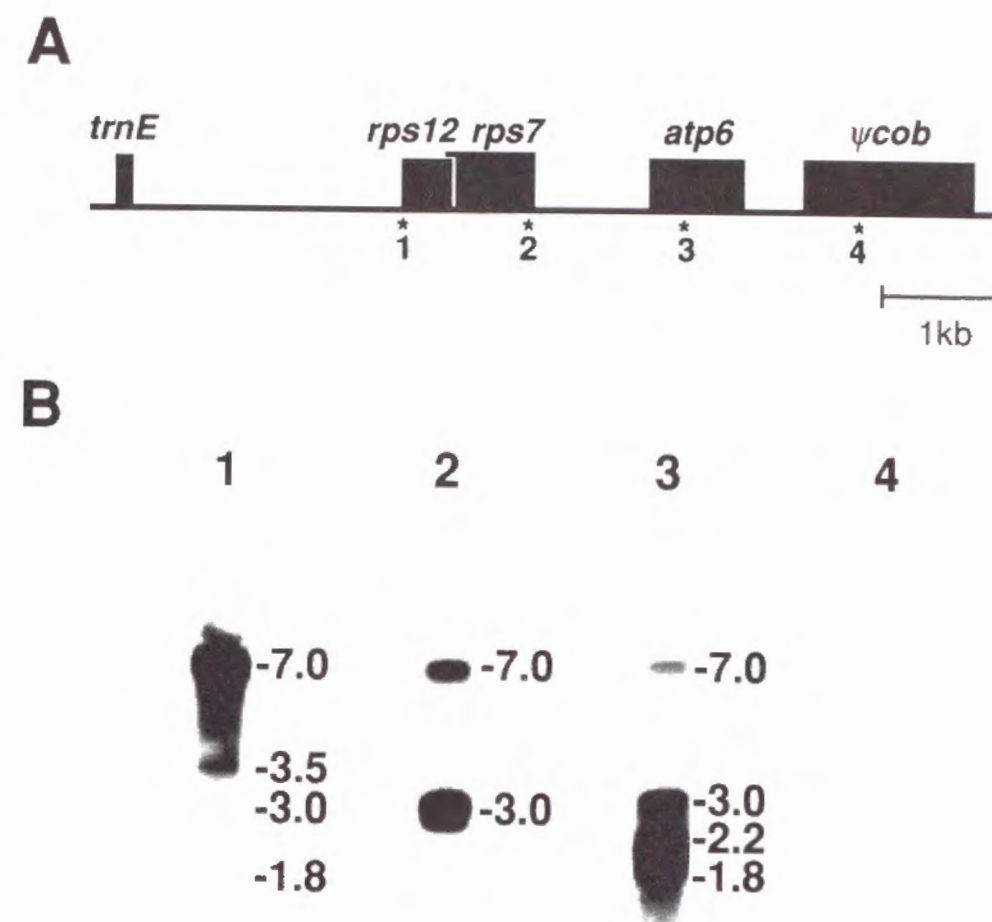


Fig. 6A, B. Transcription analysis of the region containing *rps12* and *rps7*. **A** Gene organization of the liverwort *rps12* and *rps7* genes. Each probes is shown by an asterisk under the gene organization. **B** Northern hybridization was performed by the probes specific to lane 1, *rps12*; lane 2, *rps7*; lane 3, *atp6*; lane 4, *ψcob* genes. The size of each transcripts is indicated by a number given in kilobases (kb).

carried out. Four bands of 7.0 kb, 3.0 kb, 2.2 kb and 1.8 kb were detected in the case of *atp6* (Fig. 6B, lane 3), while no signal was observed in the case of *ψcob* (Fig. 6B, lane 4). These results suggested that *rps12*, *rps7* and *atp6* but not *ψcob*

were transcribed in a single primary transcript of 7.0 kb and that the 3.0 kb transcript probably contained only *rps7* and *atp6* genes. It has not been clear whether this 3.0kb RNA molecule was produced by processing of the 7.0 kb transcript or was transcribed from the region upstream of *rps7* gene independently of *rps12*. The *rps12-rps7* region of liverwort mitochondria possibly function as a ribosomal protein gene operon like the *str* operon of *E. coli*.

Transcription analysis of the twelve genes organized into a large ribosomal protein gene cluster

Next, expressions of the twelve genes forming the large ribosomal protein gene cluster (*rps10-rpl2-rps19-rps3-rpl16-rpl5-rps14-rps8-rpl6-rps13-rps11-rps1*) were analyzed. Using oligonucleotide probes complementary to each gene as shown in Fig. 7A, Northern hybridizations were performed (Fig. 7B). In several cases, three bands of 3.5 kb, 3.0 kb and 1.8 kb were detected, but they were supposed to be resulted from cross-hybridizations with rRNAs as mentioned above. Four probes complementary to *rpl2*, *rps19*, *rps3* and *rpl16*, mainly hybridized a common 7.3 kb transcript (Fig. 7B, lanes 2 to 5), while one major band of about 9.6 kb was found when probed for *rps10* (Fig. 7B, lane 1). In contrast, no major signal was detected when hybridized with each probe specific for *rpl5*, *rps14*, *rps8*, *rpl6*, *rps13*, *rps11* and *rps1* (Fig. 7B, lanes 6 to 12). The distance between 3' end of *rps10* and 5' end of *rpl5* is 7.2 kb, therefore it is likely that the 7.3 kb transcript initiates from the region between *rps10* and *rpl2* and terminates between *rpl16* and *rpl5*. These results suggest that only four genes, *rpl2*, *rps19*, *rps3* and *rpl16* are co-transcribed and expressed as a single transcription unit similar to the S10 operon of *E. coli*. On the other hand, it is supposed that *rpl5*, *rps14*, *rps8*, *rpl6*, *rps13*, *rps11* and *rps1* are not transcribed or are transcribed at very low levels. When probed for *ψmad7* located at 1.3 kb upstream of *rps10*, the 9.6 kb transcript was also found, demonstrating that *ψmad7* and *rps10* were probably co-transcribed (see also Chapter III).

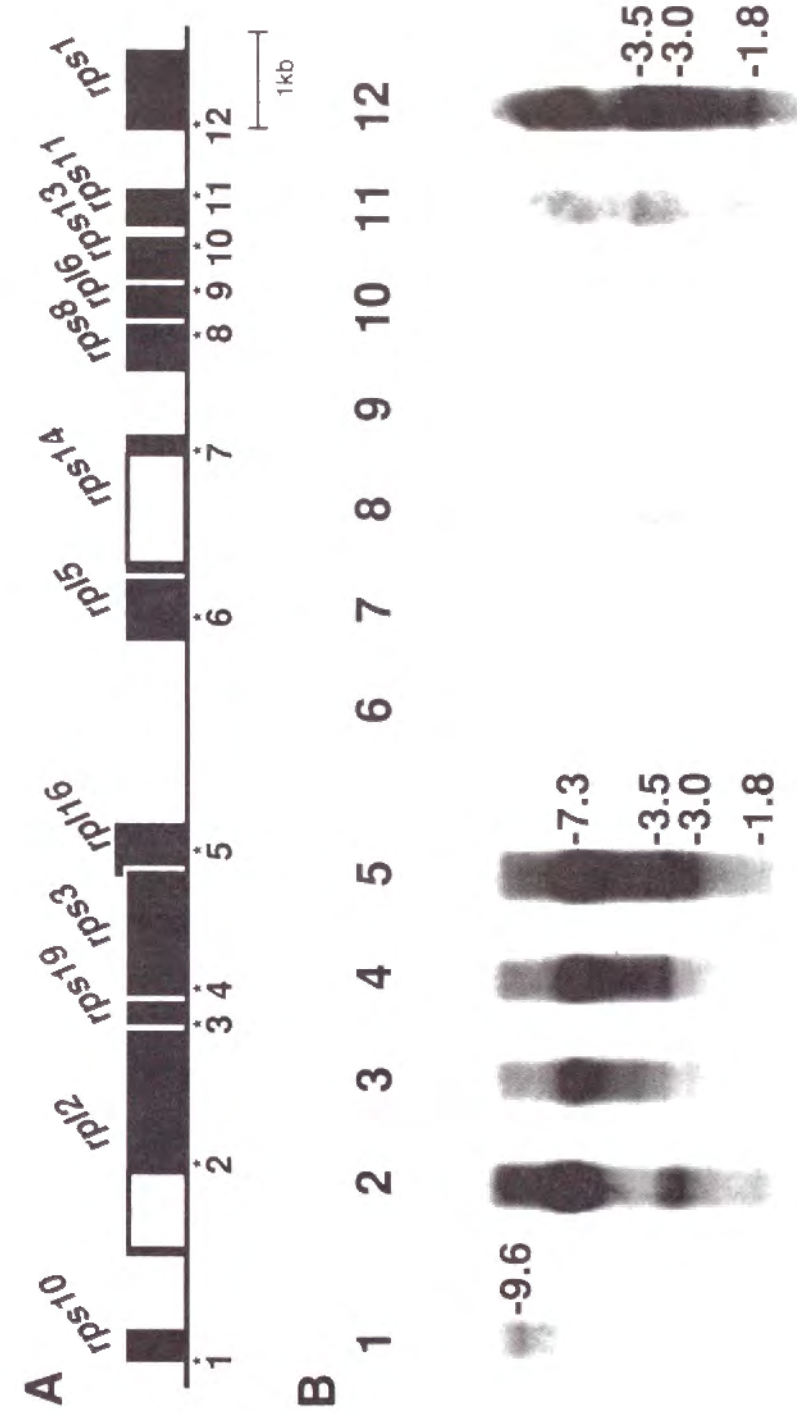


Fig. 7A, B. Transcription analysis of the liverwort ribosomal protein genes organized into a large cluster (*rps10-rps12-rps19-rps3-rpl16-rpl5-rps14-rps8-rpl6-rps13-rps11-rps1*). **A** Gene organization of the large ribosomal protein gene cluster in liverwort. Filled and open boxes indicate exons and introns, respectively. Each probe is shown by an asterisk under the gene organization. **B** Northern hybridization was performed by the probes specific to lane1, *rps10*; lane2, *rpl2*; lane3, *rps19*; lane4, *rps3*; lane5, *rpl16*; lane6, *rpl5*; lane7, *rps14*; lane8, *rps8*; lane9, *rpl6*; lane10, *rps13*; lane11, *rps11*; lane12, *rps1* genes. The size of each transcripts is indicated by a number given in kilobases (kb).

Chapter II

Genes for NADH dehydrogenase subunits in liverwort mitochondrial genome

Introduction

NADH dehydrogenase, which is also called as NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase (EC 1.6.99.3), is the respiratory chain complex I. This is the largest complex of respiratory enzyme complexes in mitochondrial inner membrane and the first enzyme in respiratory chain that accepts electrons from NADH and transfers them to ubiquinone. It consists of approximately 30-40 subunits, and also contains one FMN (flavin mononucleotide) and iron-sulfur clusters as redox groups (Weiss *et al.*, 1991; Walker, 1992). In mammals, seven subunits of this enzyme are encoded by mitochondrial genomes and synthesized in mitochondria. These mitochondrial genes for the subunits are identified and designated as ND1-4, ND4L, and ND5-6 (Chomyn *et al.*, 1985; Chomyn *et al.*, 1986) (Table 1.). *Podospira anserina* mitochondrial genome also contains seven genes for subunits of the enzyme complex, ND1-4, ND4L, ND5-6 (Cummings *et al.*, 1990). On the other hand, the mitochondrial genome of yeast has not been reported to have a gene for any subunit of NADH dehydrogenase. It is assumed that genes for other subunits of this enzyme are nuclear-encoded and that their gene products are imported from cytoplasm into mitochondria.

Nine kinds of genes for subunits of this enzyme, *nad1* (Bland *et al.*, 1986; Stern *et al.*, 1986; Wahleithner *et al.*, 1990; Wissinger *et al.*, 1991; Chapdelaine and Bonen, 1991), *nad2* (Xue *et al.*, 1990), *nad3* (Gualberto *et al.*, 1988; Rasmussen and Hanson, 1989; Schuster *et al.*, 1990b; Suzuki *et al.*, 1991; Kim *et al.*, 1991), *nad4* (Lamattina *et al.*, 1989; Wintz *et al.*, 1989; Lamattina and Grienberger, 1991; Gass *et al.*, 1992; Geiss *et al.*, 1994), *nad4L* (Brandt *et al.*, 1992), *nad5* (Wissinger *et al.*, 1988; Ecke *et al.*, 1990; de Souza *et al.*, 1991; Knoop *et al.*, 1991; Park and Breitenberger, unpublished data in Genbank, accession no. M57478), *nad6*

(Haouazine *et al.*, 1992; Nugent and Palmer, 1993), *nad7* (Bonen *et al.*, 1994; Herz *et al.*, 1994; Gälber *et al.*, 1994), *nad9* (Kubo *et al.*, 1993; Lamattine *et al.*, 1993; Grohmann *et al.*, 1994) have been identified so far on mitochondrial genomes from higher plants.

Seven coding regions whose deduced amino acid sequences have significant similarities with those of subunits of human mitochondrial respiratory NADH dehydrogenase have been found in the chloroplast genomes of *Marchantia polymorpha* (Ohyama *et al.*, 1986) and *Nicotiana tabacum* (Shinozaki *et al.*, 1986) and named *ndh* genes (*ndh1-4*, *ndh4L*, and *ndh5-6* in *M. Polymorpha*, or *ndhA-ndhG* in *N. Tabacum*, respectively). In addition, three gene, *ndhH*, *ndhI* and *ndhJ* (previously named ORF392, *frxB* and ORF169 in liverwort chloroplast genome, respectively) have been identified on chloroplast genomes by comparing bovine nuclear-encoded subunits of this enzyme (Dupuis *et al.*, 1991).

Recently a complete nucleotide sequence of the mitochondrial genome from a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*, and deduced its gene organization have been determined in this laboratory (Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Oda *et al.*, 1992c). In this chapter, the author describe detailed characterization of the eight subunits of NADH dehydrogenase encoded by liverwort mitochondrial genes, *nad1*, *nad2*, *nad3*, *nad4*, *nad4L*, *nad5*, *nad6*, and *nad9* and also showed transcriptions of these genes.

Table 1. Genes for NADH dehydrogenase complex

	Genes for subunits									
	<i>nad1</i>	<i>nad2</i>	<i>nad3</i>	<i>nad4</i>	<i>nad4L</i>	<i>nad5</i>	<i>nad6</i>	<i>nad7</i>	<i>nad8</i>	<i>nad9</i>
Mitochondria										
Liverwort	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	pseudo	-	+
Angiosperms	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+
Human	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Yeast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Podospora</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Chloroplast										
Liverwort	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Materials and Methods

Analysis of nucleotide and amino acid sequences

Computer analysis of nucleotide and amino acid sequences was carried out as described in Chapter I.

Isolation of mitochondria RNA from and Northern Hybridization

The liverwort mitochondrial RNA was isolated by the methods as described in Chapter I. For Northern hybridization, a 664 bp *BglIII-PstI* restriction fragment was isolated from a plasmid pLB104 (Oda *et al.*, 1992c) and labeled by [α^{32} -P]dCTP (3,000 Ci/mmol, Amersham) using Random Primer DNA labeling kit (Boehringer Mannheim). The following oligonucleotides were also used as probes specific for each regions.

nad1 : 5'-GATCATAACGATATCGTGGAAATGCTGCGC-3' (Fig. 6A, 1)

nad3 : 5'-CATTCGTAAGCTGACAATTTCTCTGGATAAGCC-3' (Fig. 6A, 2)

nad4L : 5'-AATAGCGGATTCCGCAGCAGCCACCGTTAA-3' (Fig. 6A, 3)

nad6 : 5'-TATGTTAGATAGGTTGCACTCAATTCGTTGGTAAT-3' (Fig. 6A, 4)

nad9 : 5'-ACCAAACATATCCCAAGTTTCTCGTTC-3' (Fig. 6A, 5)

nad5 exon1 : 5'-GCCCCAAGCAGCGTCAAAGAGTTCCGAAAA-3' (Fig. 7A, 1)

spacer between *nad5* and *nad4* : 5'-GAGGGGATGTGCGTTAAATAGACCTTCCGG-3' (Fig. 7A, 2)

nad5 and *nad4* : 5'-TCTGTTGACCCGGTGTGTTTTTGGCGAATT-3' (Fig. 7A, 3)

nad4 intron : 5'-GGTTCCAATCTAATAACCGCGGTTCGGACC-3' (Fig. 7A, 4)

nad4 exon2 : 5'-TAGGTGCCTCCACATGAGCTTCAGGTAACC-3' (Fig. 7A, 5)

nad2 intron : 5'-GCCGGATCCGCCTGGATCACCTGGAATGAT-3' (Fig. 7A, 7)

nad2 exon2 : 5'-CGGCCAGTGCTCCTAAGATCATAGAAGCAA-3' (Fig. 7A, 8)

Results and Discussion

Organization of *nad* genes in the liverwort mitochondrial genome

The coding regions for the *nad* genes of the liverwort mitochondrial genome were predicted by comparing them with amino acid sequences of known *nad* genes from other organisms, and their exon-intron junctions were assumed by the conserved

secondary structures of their introns. All of the liverwort *nad* genes, including pseudo-*nad7*, were located on the same DNA strand (Oda *et al.*, 1992a). The liverwort *nad1*, *nad3*, *nad4L*, *nad6* and *nad9* genes are scattered throughout the genome while the liverwort *nad5*, *nad4*, and *nad2* genes form a cluster (Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Nozato *et al.*, 1993). In the case of the liverwort chloroplasts, *ndh7* (previously assigned ORF392), *ndh1*, *ndh8* (previously assigned *frxB*), *ndh6*, *ndh4L*, and *ndh4* form a cluster in the small single copy (SSC) region (Kohchi *et al.*, 1988), and *ndh3*, *ndh9* (previously named as ORF169), and *ndh10* (previously assigned *psbG*) in the large single copy (LSC) region (Umesono *et al.*, 1988). All but *ndh2* are on the same strand of the chloroplast DNA. Therefore, the organization of the mitochondrial *nad* and the chloroplast *ndh* genes is not similar. This indicates the independent gene rearrangements in the individual organelle genomes during the evolution.

Among the liverwort mitochondrial *nad* genes, *nad5*, *nad4*, and *nad2*, are tandemly clustered as in the following order; *nad5* - 1334 bp spacer - *nad4* - 27 bp spacer - *nad2*. This closely related gene arrangement suggests co-transcriptional expression of them. On the other hand, these three genes of the angiosperms analyzed to date, are not found to be clustered. In contrast, it is reported that the *nad1* exon d and *nad6* gene are closely linked and co-transcribed in wheat mitochondria (Haouazine *et al.*, 1993).

Characterization of the liverwort *nad* genes

The liverwort *nad1* gene has no intron, though the *nad1* genes of wheat, *Oenothera*, and *Petunia* have four group II introns in their coding regions (Fig. 1A and Table 2.). All of the introns in higher plant *nad1* genes are inserted at identical sites (Fig. 2a). The mitochondrial genome of *Podospira anserina* has a gene equivalent to the *nad1*, i.e., ND1, which is also split by the four group I introns. These facts indicate the possibility that the ancestors of plant and fungi originally had group I introns in their *nad1* genes, but the plant species have lost them all after the divergence of plants from fungi; the angiosperms then having acquired the group II introns since divergence from the bryophytes (Ohta *et al.*, unpublished data).

The *nad2* gene in the liverwort mitochondria is interrupted by 1,418 bp group II intron. It is also reported that the *nad2* gene in *Oenothera* mitochondria have four group II introns (Binder *et al.*, 1992) (Fig. 1B and Table 2.). Especially, the liverwort *nad2* intron was inserted at the identical site to the *Oenothera nad2* intron c/d and showed sequence similarity with that. Liverwort chloroplast *ndh2* is also split by a group II intron of 536 bp and specifies 501 amino acid residues (Ohshima *et al.*, 1986). Though the amino acid sequence of liverwort mitochondrial NAD2 shows significant similarity (32.9% amino acid identity) with liverwort chloroplast *ndh2* gene product, the insertion site of the intron is not conserved, suggesting that the insertional event of introns into the chloroplast *ndh2* and the mitochondrial *nad2* would have occurred at least after divergence of a prototype of a gene for NADH dehydrogenase into chloroplastic and mitochondrial genes.

The liverwort *nad3* gene is interrupted by a 1,485 bp group II intron although those of *Oenothera* (Schuster *et al.*, 1990), *Petunia* (Rasmussen and Hanson, 1989), maize (Gualberto *et al.*, 1988), wheat (Gualberto *et al.*, 1988; Gualberto *et al.*, 1989), and liverwort chloroplasts (Kohchi *et al.*, 1988) do not have any introns (Fig. 1C and Table 2.).

Liverwort mitochondrial *nad4* contains one group II intron of 899 bp, although *nad4* genes of angiosperm mitochondria have up to three introns (Fig. 1D and Table 2.). The insertion sites of introns in *nad4* genes from higher plant mitochondria are conserved among them, but different from those of the liverwort. This suggests that the origin of introns in liverwort mitochondrial *nad4* genes would be different from those in higher plant mitochondrial genomes. Interestingly, the liverwort *nad4* intron has partly sequence similarity with introns in the liverwort *nad4L*, *rpl2* and pseudo-*nad7*, suggesting that these introns have been evolved from a common ancestor and that these introns have moved in the liverwort mitochondrial genome in the course of evolution (Ohta *et al.*, unpublished data).

The liverwort *nad4L* gene has two group II introns, 1,720 bp and 1,151 bp in size. On the other hand, no introns were found in *nad4L* genes of angiosperms mitochondria so far (Fig. 1E and Table 2.).

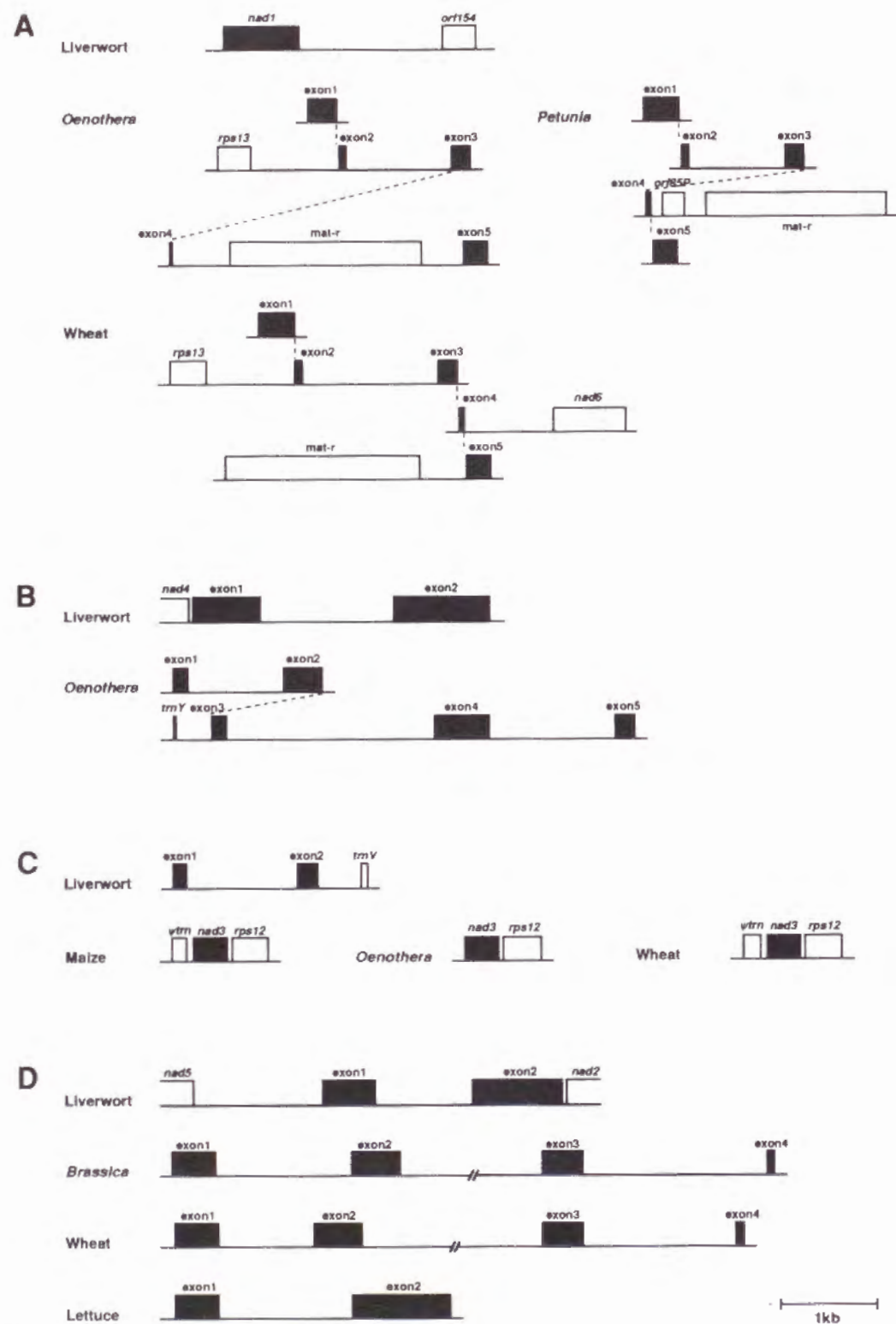


Fig. 1 (Cont.)

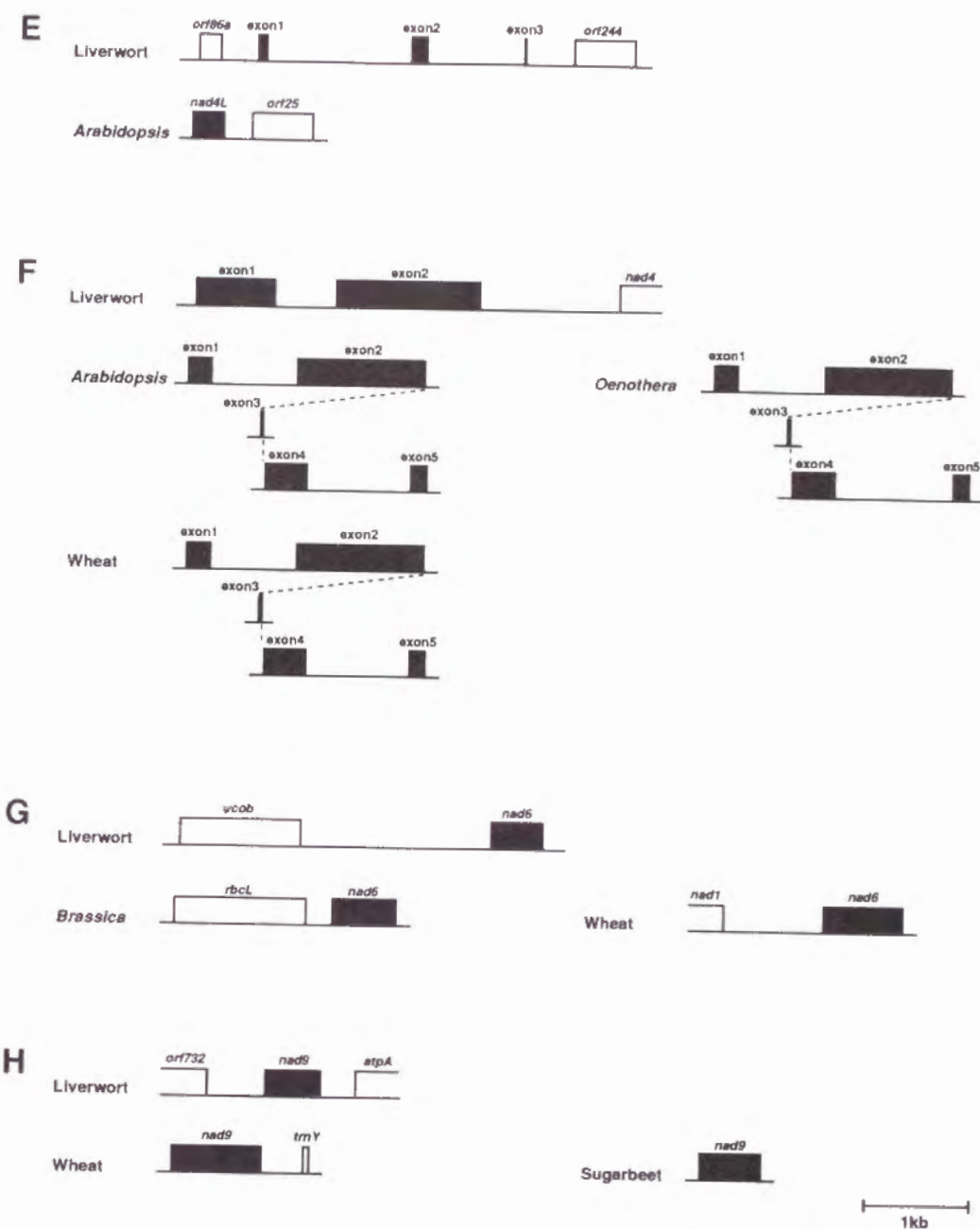


Fig. 1. Gene structures of *nad* genes in liverwort and higher plants mitochondria. The exons of the *nad* genes are indicated by solid boxes. A; *nad1*, B; *nad2*, C; *nad3*, D; *nad4*, E; *nad4L*, F; *nad5*, G; *nad6*, H; *nad9*.

Table 2. Numbers of introns in *nad* genes

	Genes for subunits									
	<i>nad1</i>	<i>nad2</i>	<i>nad3</i>	<i>nad4</i>	<i>nad4L</i>	<i>nad5</i>	<i>nad6</i>	<i>nad7</i>	<i>nad8</i>	<i>nad9</i>
Mitochondria										
Liverwort	0	1	1	1	2	1	0	(2)	-	0
Angiosperms	4	4	0	1-3	0	4	0	0	?	0
Human	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Yeast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Podospora</i>	4	0	1	1	1	4	0	-	-	-
Chloroplast										
Liverwort	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The mitochondrial *nad5* gene of liverwort consist of two exons separated by a 672 bp group I intron, while those of higher plants have four introns, two *cis*-spliced and two *trans*-spliced which are inserted at almost identical sites among these plants (Fig. 1F and Table 2.). Like the situation of the *nad1* gene, the insertion site of the liverwort *nad1* intron was different from those of angiosperms.

There is no intron in the *nad6* and *nad9* genes of the liverwort mitochondria, nor are introns present in angiosperm mitochondria (Fig. 1G and 1H, respectively and Table 2.).

Amino acid sequence comparison of NADH dehydrogenase subunits encoded by liverwort mitochondrial DNA

Amino acid sequences of the eight liverwort mitochondrial *nad* gene products were compared with their counterparts from higher plant mitochondria, *Podospora* mitochondria, human mitochondria, and liverwort chloroplast *ndh* gene products (Fig. 2) and amino acid homologies (%) between them are summarized in Table 3.

The product of the liverwort *nad1* gene is of a polypeptide of 328 amino acid residues. An alignment of the deduced amino acid sequences of the NADH dehydrogenase subunit 1 genes from several organisms are given in Fig. 2a. Full

nucleotide sequences of the *nad1* genes are available from wheat, *Oenothera*, and *Petunia*. These mRNAs undergo *trans*-splicing and RNA editing. Partial nucleotide sequences of the *nad1* gene have also been determined for tobacco (Bland *et al.*, 1986), maize (Bland *et al.*, 1986), watermelon (Stern *et al.*, 1986), and broad bean (Wahleithner *et al.*, 1990). The existence of sequences homologous to those of the *nad1* genes have been found in the mitochondria of spinach (Stern and Palmer, 1986), sunflower (Siculella and Palmer, 1988), several species of *Brassica* (Makaroff and Palmer, 1987; Palmer and Herbon, 1988), sugarbeet (Brears and Lonsdale, 1988), and rice (Yamato *et al.*, 1992). The amino acid sequences of the mitochondrial *nad1* gene products are highly (>80%) conserved between a liverwort and other plants.

The subunit 2 of NADH dehydrogenase (NAD2) from liverwort mitochondria which is encoded by the *nad2* gene is a polypeptide of 489 amino acid residues. This protein shows significant levels of amino acid sequence identities with counterparts from the other organisms as shown in Fig. 2b and Table 3. Liverwort mitochondrial NAD2 is 142-amino acids longer than that of the human mitochondrial ND2 of 347 amino acids. This difference in length is mainly due to an additional stretch of amino-terminal amino acid sequences in the liverwort mitochondrial NAD2 (Fig. 2b). However, this amino-terminal region missing in human ND2 product has significant sequence similarity with its counterpart of the liverwort chloroplast NDH2.

The number of amino acid residues in the putative product of the liverwort mitochondrial *nad3* gene is 118, as same as those of wheat, *Oenothera* and *Petunia* mitochondria. The alignments of the amino acid sequences of the *nad3* homologues are shown in Fig. 2c. The relatively low homology between liverwort and *Petunia* mitochondria is probably due to the amino acid sequence being deduced from the DNA sequence of *Petunia* whereas that derived from the edited RNA sequence is given for wheat and *Oenothera*. This indicates the possible RNA editing in the *Petunia* mitochondrial transcripts.

The subunit 4 of NADH dehydrogenase (NAD4) from liverwort mitochondria which is encoded by the *nad4* gene is a polypeptide of 495 amino acid residues.

This protein shows a high level of amino acid sequence identity with the counterparts from wheat, *Brassica* and lettuce mitochondria, and also significant levels of sequence similarity with those from another organisms as shown in Fig. 2d and Table 3.

The liverwort *nad4L* gene putative product is a polypeptide of 100 amino acid residues. The liverwort *nad4L* gene product has a 36.7% homology with the corresponding product of the liverwort chloroplasts (Fig. 2e), and is a 52.8% homology to that of the ND4L gene of *P. anserina* mitochondria. The nucleotide sequence of the *nad4L* gene from *Arabidopsis* is only available as higher plants, and its gene product shows 85.0% similarity to that of the liverwort.

The subunit 5 of NADH dehydrogenase (NAD5) from liverwort mitochondria which is encoded by the *nad5* gene is a polypeptide of 669 amino acid residues. This subunit shows a high level of sequence identity with the counterparts from the other plant species, *Oenothera*, wheat, *Arabidopsis*, and also significant levels of sequence similarity with counterparts from *Podospora* mitochondria, human mitochondria, and with liverwort chloroplast *ndh5* gene product as shown in Fig. 2f and Table 3.

The liverwort *nad6* gene product would be a polypeptide of 199 amino acid residues. The deduced amino acid sequences of the *nad6* genes from several organisms are aligned as shown in Fig. 1g. The liverwort *nad6* gene product shares a homology of 15.2% with the human ND6, a value is much lower than those of the other *nad6* genes. Recently, wheat and *Brassica* mitochondrial *nad6* genes have been isolated and sequenced (Haouazine *et al.*, 1992; Nugent and Palmer, 1993). As compared the amino acid sequences of the liverwort *nad6* gene with those of them, high sequence similarities (75.3% in both cases) were found.

It was recently reported that wheat, sugarbeet, and potato mitochondria encode homologues of the nuclear-encoded 30 kDa subunit of bovine mitochondrial complex I (Lamattina *et al.*, 1993; Kubo *et al.*, 1993; Grohman *et al.*, 1994, respectively). These genes also showed similarities with the liverwort chloroplast gene *ndh9* (Ohyama *et al.*, 1986) and were named as *nad9*. The liverwort mitochondrial genome contains an ORF (*orf212*) sharing sequence homology with these *nad9* genes, so this ORF

(a) nadl

[illegible]

(b) *nad2*

[illegible]

Fig. 2. (Cont.)

Fig. 3. Amino acid sequence comparison of parts of 2, 4, and 5 subunits of NADH dehydrogenase (NAD2, NAD4, and NAD5, respectively) deduced from liverwort mitochondrial DNA. Black boxes indicate identical amino acid residues. Amino acids common to all the three proteins are depicted by asterisks. Residual numbers are shown both sides of the sequences.

A

nad6 ATATATTTTTTGTTCACAGCTAATAAAATTAAGGGAAAATTCACCATGATACTTTTTATGTTTTTGTGGT

orf100 TGACACAGCTAAAAAAAAAATAAAAT--AAATTGAAAATTCATCATGATACTTTTTATGTTTTTATTAT

M I L F Y V F V V

nad6 L A L V S G A M V I R A K N P V H S V L F L I L V

orf100 CTCGCTTTAGTGTCAGGCGCTATGGTGATACGTGCCAAAAATCCAGTTCATTCTGTTTTATTTTTAATCCTAGTT

CTCGCTTTAGTTTCGGGTGCTCTCGGTATACGTGCCAAAAATCCCGTTCATTCTGTTGTCTTTTTCATCCTAGTT

L A L V S G A L G I R A K N P V H S V V F F I L V

nad6 F C N T S G L L V L L G L D F F A M I F L V V Y V

orf100 TTTTGCAATACTTCGGGGTTACTTGTTTTGTTAGGTCTTGACTTCTTTGCTATGATTTTTTAGTGGTTTATGTA

TTTTTCAATACTTTCGGTTTACTTGTTTTGTTAGGTCTTGACTTCTTTGCTATGTTTTTTTAGTGTGTTTATGTA

F F N T F G L L V L L G L D F F A M F F L V V Y V

nad6 G A I A V L F L F V V M M L H I R I E E I H E N V

orf100 GGAGCTATTGCCGTTTTATTTTTGTTTGTGCTTATGATGTTACATATAAGGATAGAAGAAATTCACGAGAATGTA

GGA-----GCCGTTTTCATTTTGTGTTGTGCTTATGATGTTACATATAAGGATAGAAGAAATTCACGAGAATGTA

G A V F I L F V V M M L H I R I E E I H E N V

nad6 L R Y L P V G G I I G L I F L L E I F L M V D N D

orf100 TTGCGCTATTTACCTGTAGGTGGTATTATTGGACTTATTTTTTGTGGAAATCTTTTAAATGGTAGATAATGAT

TTGCGCTATTTACCTATAGGTGGTTTATTGGGCTTATTTTTTTTT---CTATTTTAAATCCCTTCTTTCGTA

L R Y L P I G G F I G L I F F F Y F *

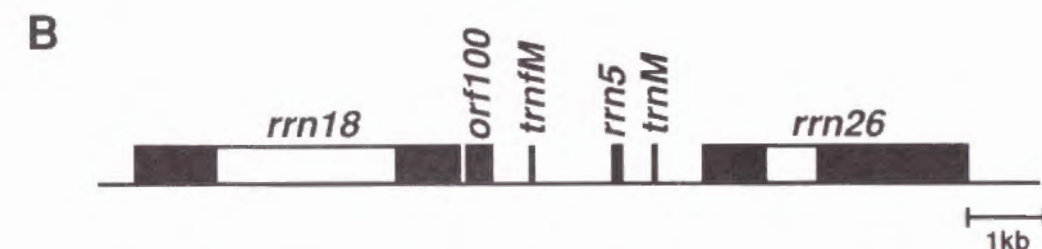


Fig. 4A, B. **A** The alignment for nucleotide sequences of the *nad6* gene (upper) and its duplicated fragment (lower). The boundaries of the duplicated region are shown with vertical arrows. Dashes indicate the deleted nucleotides and the identical nucleotides are shown by colons between the two sequences. The deduced amino acid sequences of putative products of the *nad6* gene and the duplicated sequence, *orf100*, are also given above and below the nucleotide sequences, respectively. **B** The gene organization in the vicinity of *orf100*. The coding region for each gene is illustrated with the filled box(es) and the introns are shown as open boxes.

Numerous abnormal ORFs, which consist of DNA fragments derived from the common genes and from unknown sources, reside on the mitochondrial genome of higher plants. They have been studied vigorously in the connection with cytoplasmic male sterility and have been found to be expressed (reviewed in Lonsdale, 1989). It

is of interest whether the liverwort *orf100*, which contains the altered 5'- half portion of the *nad6* gene is or is not transcribed. The hydrophobic nature of the *orf100* product suggests that it could be integrated into a mitochondrial membrane.

In addition, several parts of the *nad5-nad4-nad2* gene cluster were duplicated in the liverwort mitochondrial genome. (i) 3'-terminal region of the second exon of *nad2* (364 bp) and its following non-coding region of 187 bp (total 551 bp) were directly repeated at 673 bp upstream from *nad3* which is approximately 27 kb downstream from *nad2* on the same strand, although 11 bases were altered and one base was deleted in the repeated region. (ii) A part of the first exon of *nad5*, which is 172 bp long, starting from the second nucleotide of the ATG translation initiation codon, was repeated at 58 bp upstream from a gene for threonine tRNA with the anticodon GGU and which is located at a distance of approximately 50 kb on the opposite strand. This region had 87.2% identity with the corresponding region of *nad5*. (iii) The most striking repeated sequence in this *nad* gene cluster is an 800 bp segment, which is located in the spacer region between *nad5* and *nad4*. This segment starts 206 bp downstream from the stop codon of *nad5* and is duplicated on the opposite strand in the second group II intron of the *cob* gene, which encodes apocytochrome *b* protein as shown in Fig. 5. The repeated region extends from the 5' end of the intron to the end of the fifth stem structure, which is typical in group II introns (Michel and Dujon, 1983). Inverted repeat sequences of eight nucleotides (GAGTGACC and GGTCATC) were detected near the ends of the repeated sequence on the spacer region. In the Northern hybridization analysis, only a 9.6 kb premature RNA band was detected using oligonucleotide probe B, which specifically hybridizes RNA molecules including the spacer region between *nad5* and *nad4*. If the *cob* gene is actively transcribed in the liverwort mitochondria, the repeated region in the *cob* intron should hybridize with the 9.6 kb premature RNA molecules generated from this *nad* gene cluster. This suggests that anti-sense RNA molecules complement to part of the spacer region between *nad5* and *nad4* are present in the liverwort mitochondria. It is noteworthy that no small RNA transcript is detected in this repeated spacer region. This finding suggests that an anti-sense RNA controls RNA

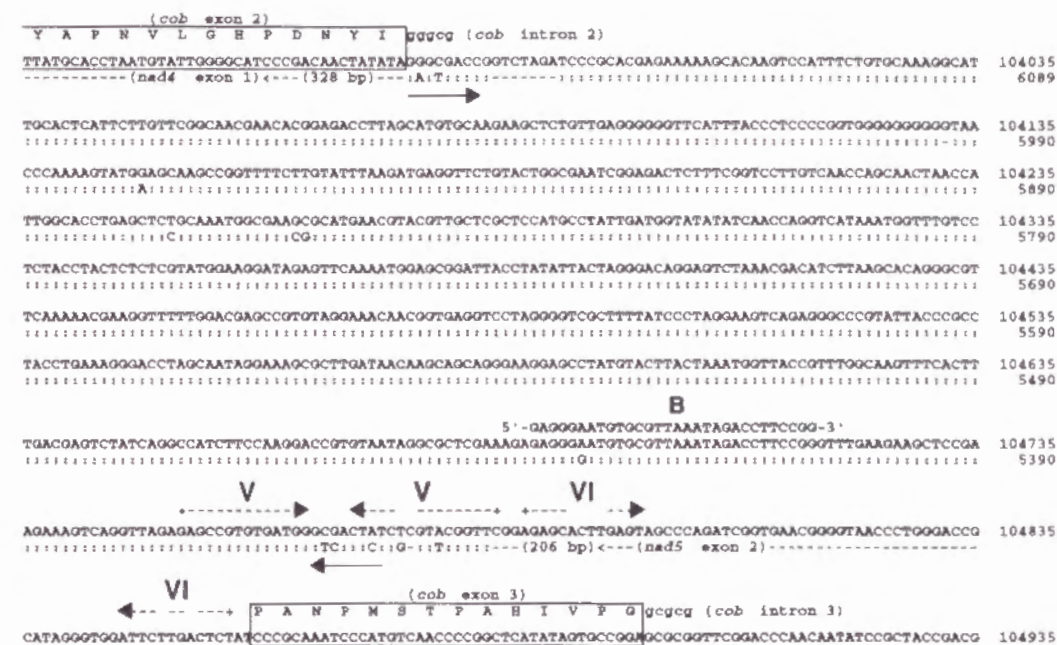


Fig. 5. Nucleotide sequence comparison of repeated regions between the second intron of *cob* and *nad5-nad4* spacer region, of which the respective direction of transcription is shown by solid arrows. Identical nucleotides are shown by colons. Coding regions for *cob* gene (exon 2 and exon 3) are boxed. Inverted repeats are depicted by dashed arrows. Inverted repeats corresponding to the fifth and sixth stem structures typical to group II introns are depicted by V and VI, respectively. Nucleotide sequences which are typical for the 5' ends of group II introns are also shown in small letters (gggcg and ggcgc). Numbering of the nucleotides is according to Oda *et al.* (1992c). B indicates the oligonucleotide probe used for the Northern blot analysis as mentioned in the text.

stability in the mitochondria, but functional tests need to be carried out before this can be substantiated. The molecular mechanisms which lead to the generation of repeated sequences on the liverwort mitochondrial genome and their functions are also not known. Furthermore, the liverwort mitochondrial DNA is a single circular molecule as determined by electron microscopy and restriction mapping (Oda *et al.*, 1992b), although many repeated segments are detected on the DNA sequence of this mitochondrial DNA. This suggests that liverwort mitochondria have lost recombinational system or have not acquired one during its evolution. It is possible that some DNA fragments generated from the mRNA transcript by reverse transcriptase

could have been integrated into distant regions of the liverwort mitochondrial DNA.

Transcriptions of the nad1, nad3, nad4L, nad6 and nad9 genes in liverwort mitochondria

To examine the viabilities of the liverwort *nad* genes, *nad1*, *nad3*, *nad4L*, *nad6* and *nad9*, their mRNA transcription was analyzed by Northern hybridization using the appropriate synthetic oligonucleotides as probes (Fig. 6A). These five genes were found to have transcripts whose lengths were long enough to be their mature mRNAs (Fig. 6B). Two major transcripts (7.6 kb and 5.7 kb) of the *nad1* gene were observed when probed with a synthetic oligonucleotide complementary to the 5' end portion of the gene (Fig. 6B, lane 1). The coding region of the *nad1* gene has a length of 987 bp. Therefore, both of the transcripts are able to cover its coding region, and their large sizes suggest co-transcription with a putative *orf154* at approximately 1.9 kb downstream from this gene (Fig. 6B, lane 1).

The transcripts of the *nad3* gene were probed with a sequence complementary to the exon 1, producing three major signals of 4.8 kb, 3.2 kb, and 2.5 kb (Fig. 6B, lane 2). As the *nad3* gene has an intron (1,485 bp in length), its removal may provide an explanation for the difference in size between 4.8 kb and 3.2 kb transcripts. The *nad3* gene has a reading frame of only 357 bp, so there is the possibility that co-transcription occurs with the *trnV*-UAC gene at 607 bp downstream from the *nad3* gene (Fig. 6A, lane 2). However, using a probe for *trnV*-UAC, it was demonstrated that none of the *nad3* transcripts are of the same size as the *trnV*-UAC transcript (data not shown).

Using a synthetic probe complementary sequence to exon 2, the *nad4L* gene was demonstrated to have a rather complex pattern of transcription. An major discrete transcripts of 4.5 kb and heterogeneous transcripts of approximately 3.2 kb and 1.8 kb were detected (Fig. 6B, lane 3). Excision of the two introns in the *nad4L* mRNA did not offer a clear explanation for the identity of each transcript or provide an indication of simple splicing events. The lengths, more than 1.8 kb of the *nad4L* gene transcripts are sufficient for covering the coding region of the *nad4L* (0.3 kb),

and possibly include the coding regions of two putative open reading frames (ORFs) upstream of (*orf86a*) and downstream from (*orf244*), the *nad4L* gene within a region of approximately 5 kb (Fig. 6A, lane 3).

The two major transcripts, 2.9 kb and 1.7 kb, of the *nad6* gene were detected with the probe sequence complementary to a region exclusive to the *nad6* gene, but not to *orf100*, which, as described above, has a 5'-half portion of the *nad6* gene. Therefore, cross-hybridization to any *orf100* transcript could be excluded. The major transcripts detected (2.9 kb and 1.7 kb) were much larger than the size (0.6 kb) of the *nad6* gene (Fig. 6B, lane 4). Therefore, *nad6* gene produced larger transcript sizes than the predicted for this gene indicating its co-transcription with neighboring genes upstream and/or downstream (Fig. 6A, lane 4).

In case of the *nad9* gene, one major transcript (2.5 kb) was observed (Fig. 6B lane 5). Since the coding region of the *nad9* has a length of 639 bp, this transcript was thought to contain *orf732* and/or *atpA* genes. Using the probes specific for exon 1 of the *atpA* gene, one band was found at the similar size of about 2.5 kb. On the other hand, no transcript having the same size was detected when probed for *orf732* (data not shown), suggesting that the *nad9* gene is co-transcribed with at least 5'-portion of the *atpA* gene.

All of the *nad* genes analyzed above were shown to be transcribed; this strongly suggests that they do encode proteins, which is further supported by the fact that their putative products and their counterparts from different organisms have conserved amino acid sequences. All of the transcripts are much longer in length than would be expected from the lengths of the coding region. This implies that they could be transcribed with their neighboring genes. The multiple sizes of transcripts for a single gene can be attributed to their representing different stages in RNA processing and to the occurrence of multiple initiation and termination sites for transcription. The transcripts of some maize mitochondrial genes have been demonstrated to have numerous transcription initiation sites (Mulligan *et al.*, 1988a; Mulligan *et al.*, 1988b), whereas a single transcription initiation site has been identified in other higher plant mitochondria (Rothenberg and Hanson, 1987; Young *et al.*,

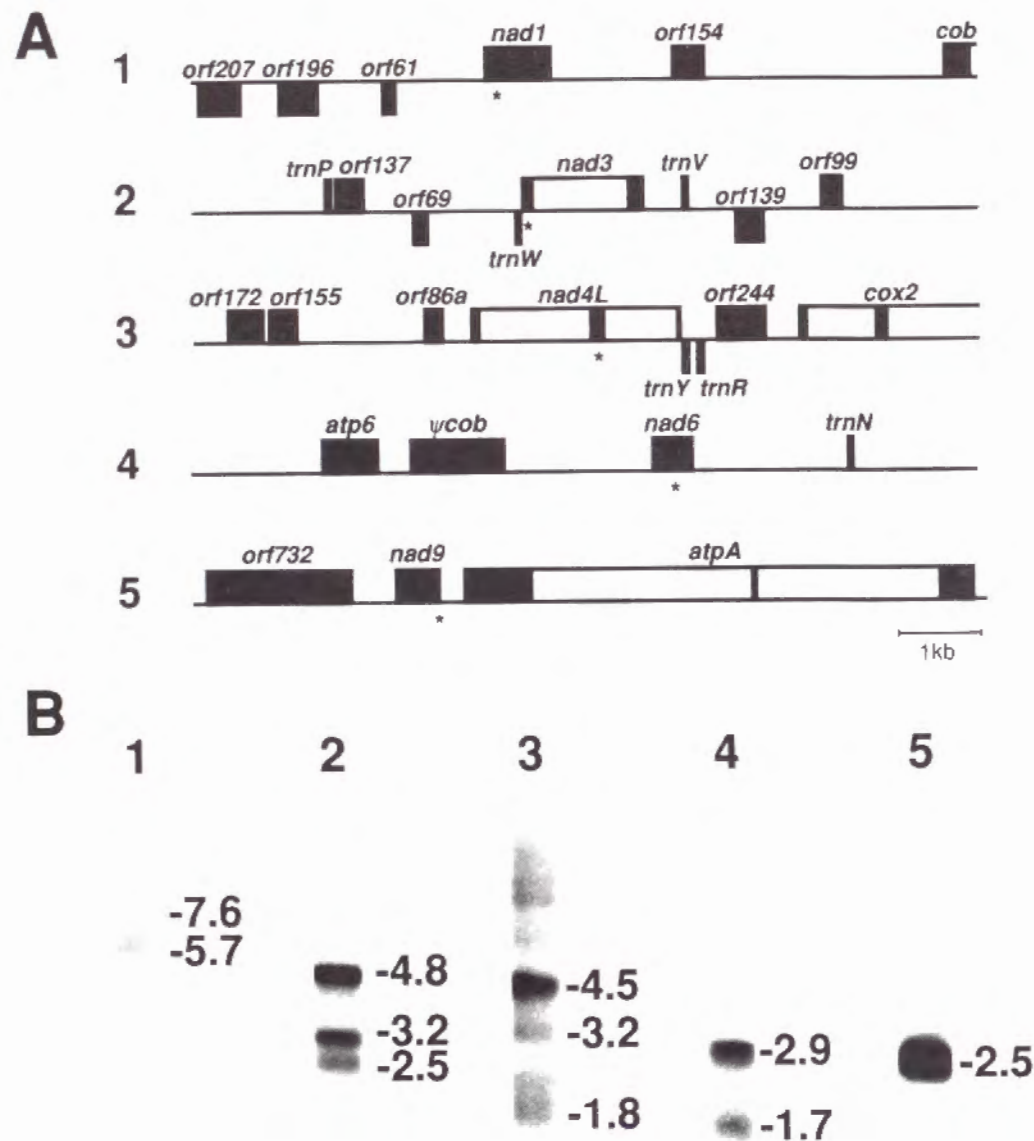


Fig. 6A, B. Transcription analysis of the liverwort *nad1*, *nad3*, *nad4L*, *nad6* and *nad9*. **A** Gene organization of the liverwort *nad* genes. The location of each gene is illustrated with a box, filled for exon and open for intron, respectively. lane 1, *nad1*; lane 2, *nad3*; lane 3, *nad4L*; lane 4, *nad6*; lane 5, *nad9*. Each probe is shown by an asterisk under the gene organization. **B** Northern hybridization was performed by the probes specific to lane 1, *nad1*; lane 2, *nad3*; lane 3, *nad4L*; lane 4, *nad6*; lane 5, *nad9* genes. Size of each transcript is indicated by a number in kilobases (kb).

1986; Covello and Gray, 1991; Brown *et al.*, 1991). In these cases, the consensus sequences which have been reported at the transcription initiation sites (for example, 5'-AAATN₁₋₆TAAG(TA)GA-3', Lonsdale, 1989), are moderately similar to the consensus promoter sequence of yeast mitochondria (5'-ATATAAGTA-3') as defined by mutagenesis (Biswas *et al.*, 1987). However, such sequences were not found in the regions upstream of the *nad* genes from liverwort mitochondria. Schuster *et al.*, (1986) discovered potential hairpin structures, which were analogous to the bacterial terminators at 3' terminal regions, in the mRNAs from the higher plant mitochondria. Indeed, some potential palindromic structures upstream of and downstream from the liverwort *nad* genes were found, but they were only poorly homologous with comparable structures from higher plants.

Co-transcriptional expression of the three nad genes, nad5, nad4, and nad2

To study the expression of the clustered *nad* genes (*nad5*, *nad4* and *nad2*), exon and intron specific oligonucleotide probes and a 664 bp *BglII-PstI* restriction fragment were prepared (Fig. 7A). The total mitochondrial RNA isolated from liverwort cells was hybridized with probes as shown in Fig. 7B. All the probes hybridized with an RNA band of 9.6 kb. This indicates that these three *nad* genes are actively transcribed in a single primary transcript. The RNA transcripts from the *nad5* gene, which is located at the 5' end of the *nad* gene cluster were detected as three hybridizing bands of 9.6 kb, 2.8 kb, and 2.1 kb, in Northern blot that was hybridized with an oligonucleotide probe specific for the *nad5* exon 1 (Fig. 7B, lane 1). A probe for the *nad4* intron hybridized with bands of 9.6 kb, 5.4 kb, and 3.9 kb (Fig. 7B, lane 4), indicating that premature mRNA molecules containing the *nad4* intron sequence are accumulated in the liverwort mitochondria as processed RNA molecules of 5.4 kb and 3.9 kb. The accumulation of mRNA molecules of 9.6 kb, 5.4 kb, 3.0 kb, and 2.2 kb, all including the *nad2* intron was also observed in a Northern blot, which was hybridized with a probe for the *nad2* intron (Fig. 7B, lane 7). On the other hand, putative processed RNA transcripts without intron sequences were detected as a 2.1 kb band coding for the *nad5* by probing with oligonucleotide

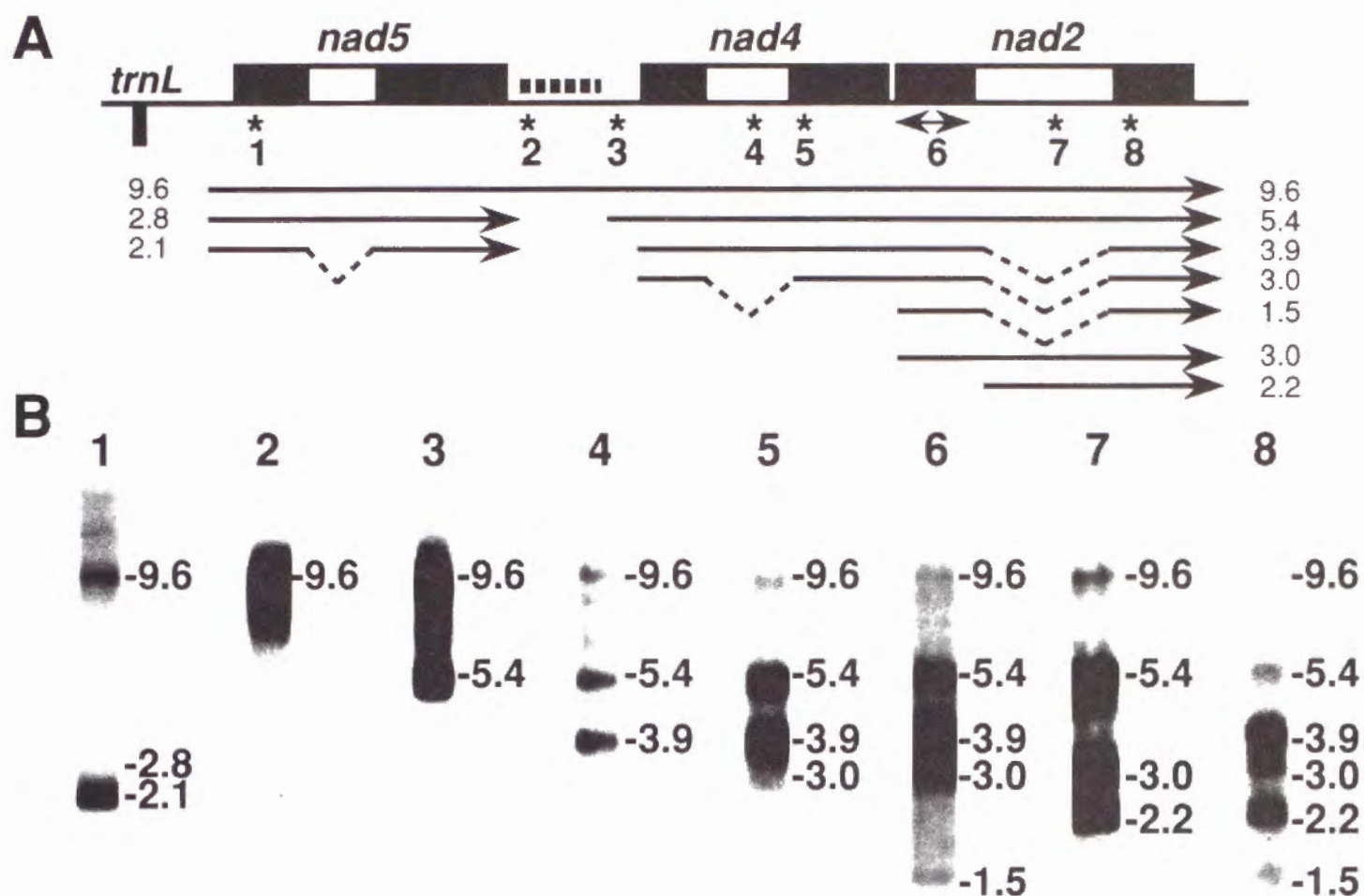


Fig. 7A, B. Transcription analysis of the liverwort *nad2*, *nad4* and *nad5*. **A** Organization of the liverwort *nad2*, *nad4* and *nad5*. Coding regions and introns are indicated by filled and open boxes, respectively. Locations of oligonucleotides and a 664-bp *Bgl*III-*Pst*I DNA fragment used as probes are indicated by asterisks (1-5, 7 and 8) and a bar with arrows in both sides (6), respectively. Possible mRNA transcripts are shown with molecular sizes in kilobases (kb). A large repeated region is shown as a broken line between *nad5* and *nad4*. **B** Northern hybridization of total mitochondrial RNA was carried out. Molecular sizes are indicated in kilobases (kb).

1 (Fig. 7B, lane 1), a 3.0 kb band for *nad4* was detected by oligonucleotide 5 (Fig. 7B, lane 5), and 3.9, 3.0, or 1.5 kb bands for *nad2* were revealed by probes 6 and 7 (Fig. 7B, lanes 6 and 7). In addition, two bands of 3.0 kb and 2.2 kb corresponding to premature RNA molecules including both exons and an intron of *nad2* was detected (Fig. 7B, lanes 6, 7, and 8). From the Northern blot analysis, the RNA transcripts containing intron sequences are relatively predominant compared with mature RNA encoding subunits of the NADH dehydrogenase in liverwort mitochondria.

Chapter III

ψnad7 gene in liverwort mitochondrial genome

Introduction

NADH dehydrogenase (NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase or complex I, EC 1.6.99.3) is the first enzyme in respiratory chain and consists of approximately 30-40 subunits (Weiss *et al.*, 1991; Walker, 1992). As described in Chapter II, seven subunits are encoded by the mitochondrial genomes in mammals (Chomyn *et al.*, 1985; Chomyn *et al.*, 1986) and in *Podospira anserina* (Cummings *et al.*, 1990). The corresponding mitochondrial genes are designated as ND1, ND2, ND3, ND4, ND4L, ND5 and ND6. On the other hand, other subunits are assumed to be nuclear-encoded. No genes for any subunits are found in yeast mitochondrial genome (de Zamaroczy and Bernardi, 1986).

Genes for seven subunits 1, 2, 3, 4, 4L, 5 and 6 of the complex (*nad1*, *nad2*, *nad3*, *nad4*, *nad4L*, *nad5* and *nad6*) are identified on the liverwort mitochondrial genome (Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Oda *et al.*, 1992c) and their expressions at RNA levels are reported (Nozato *et al.*, 1993; Yamato *et al.*, 1993). Recently, ORFs homologous to the genes for the 30 kilodalton (kDa) subunits of bovine mitochondrial complex I are found in higher plant mitochondrial genomes and designated as *nad9* genes (Kubo *et al.*, 1993; Lamattina *et al.*, 1993). The liverwort mitochondrial genome also contains its counterpart which was previously named *orf212*. Plant chloroplast genomes encode 11 genes homologous to those for the components of mitochondrial complex I and they have been named as *ndhs* (Ohyama *et al.*, 1986; Shinozaki *et al.*, 1986; Nixon *et al.*, 1989; Dupuis *et al.*, 1991), although their functions in chloroplasts have not been elucidated. Recently, however, it has been reported that their homologues, *ndhB* and *ndhL*, are essential to inorganic carbon transport in cyanobacteria, *Synechocystis* PCC6803 (Ogawa, 1991a; Ogawa, 1991b; Ogawa, 1992) and that NADH dehydrogenase is involved in the cyclic electron flow through PS I as well as the respiratory flow to the intersystem chain in *Synechocystis* PCC6803 (Mi *et al.*, 1992).

It is reported that genes for the eighth 49-kDa subunits of the complex I are encoded by the nuclear genomes of bovine (Fearnley *et al.*, 1989) and *Neurospora crassa* (Preis *et al.*, 1990), and they are designated as ND7. Moreover, ND7-homologues (*nad7*) have been found in the mitochondrial genomes of wheat (Bonen *et al.*, 1994), potato (Gäbler *et al.*, 1994) and also in kinetoplastid in protozoa (Koslowsky *et al.*, 1990). On the other hand, ORFs having sequence similarity with ND7 are identified on chloroplast genomes and named as *ndhH* (Fearnley *et al.*, 1989).

Although reading frames homologous to portion of bovine and *Neurospora crassa* mitochondrial ND7 are detected in the liverwort mitochondrial DNA, those are supposed not to be functional, namely parts of a pseudogene, *pseudo-nad7* (ψ *nad7*) (Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Oda *et al.*, 1992c). In this chapter, the author described the detail structure of ψ *nad7*, showed active expression of this pseudogene in a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*, and discussed about the gene transfer into nuclear genome.

Materials and Methods

Analysis of nucleotide and amino acid sequences

Computer analysis of nucleotide and amino acid sequences was carried out as described in Chapter I.

Nucleic acids preparation

Liverwort mitochondrial RNA of the liverwort was isolated from 7-10 day old suspension cultured cells as described in Chapter I. Liverwort mitochondrial DNA was obtained from 7-10 day old suspended cultured cells as described by Oda *et al.* (1992b).

Liverwort nuclear DNA was isolated from 7-day-old suspension cultured cells. Cells were homogenized in isolation buffer [1M hexylene glycol, 10mM PIPES-KOH pH7.0, 2mM MgCl₂, 10mM EDTA, 10mM β -mercaptoethanol, and 0.5% Triton X-100] using French press, and filtered through two layers of miracloths.

The crude nuclear fraction was precipitated and washed with isolation buffer. The nuclei were fractionated by Percoll stepwise gradients with 60% and 90% Percoll in a solution containing 10mM PIPES-KOH pH7.0, 2mM MgCl₂, 10mM β -mercaptoethanol, 10mM EDTA, and 1M sucrose. The nuclear fraction between 60% and 90% Percoll was resuspended in resuspension buffer [1M hexylene glycol, 10mM PIPES-KOH pH7.0, 2mM MgCl₂, 10mM EDTA, 10mM β -mercaptoethanol, and 20% glycerol] and centrifuged at 1,000 x g for 10 min. The nuclei pellet was washed with resuspension buffer and resuspended in 20mM Tris-HCl and 10mM EDTA. Then nuclei were lysed by addition of 0.1 volume of 10% SDS and proteinase K (at final concentration 0.012%). Nucleic acid was extracted with phenol/chloroform and precipitated by ethanol.

Total cellular RNA was isolated using the guanidinium isothiocyanate procedure (Chomczynski and Sacchi, 1987). Poly(A)⁺mRNA was purified by use of oligo(dT)-latex (OligolaterTM-dT30, Daiichi Pure Chemicals, Tokyo) according to the protocol of the manufacturer.

Southern and Northern blot analysis

Nuclear and mitochondrial DNA samples were digested with a restriction enzyme *Xho*I. They were electrophoresed in 0.8% agarose gels and transferred onto nylon membranes (BiodyneTM A, Pall, Tokyo). The membranes were prehybridized and hybridized at 42°C in a solution [0.5M NaPO₄ pH7.2, 1% BSA, 1mM EDTA, and 7% SDS]. After hybridization, filters were washed in 2 x SSC containing 0.1% SDS several times at room temperature and then in 1 x SSC containing 0.1% SDS at 42°C.

Denaturated mitochondrial RNA and poly(A)⁺mRNA samples were loaded on 0.8% agarose gels containing 2.2M formaldehyde, 20mM MOPS-KOH pH 7.0, 5mM sodium acetate, and 1mM EDTA, and blotted onto nylon membrane. Hybridization for mitochondrial RNA was performed at 45°C in a solution containing 6 x SSC, 0.1% SDS, 200 μ g/ml calf thymus DNA, 1 x Denhardt's solution and 20% formamide. After hybridization, membranes were washed several times in 6 x SSC,

0.1% SDS at 42°C. On the other hand, hybridization for poly(A)⁺mRNA was carried out at 42°C in a solution [0.5M NaPO₄ pH7.2, 1% BSA, 1mM EDTA, and 7% SDS]. The membrane was washed in 6 x SSC, 0.1% SDS at room temperature and then in 2 x SSC, 0.1% SDS at 42°C.

Oligonucleotide probes were synthesized by DNA synthesizer (Applied Biosystems, USA) as followed and then end-labeled by [γ^{32} -P]ATP (5,000 Ci/mmol, Amersham) using a polynucleotide kinase (Takara, Kyoto). An RNA ladder (BRL) was used as a size standard. A 800 bp DNA fragment was amplified by PCR using 5'-end and 3'-end primers specific to the hypothetical exon 2 and labeled with [α^{32} P]dCTP (3,000Ci/mmol, Amersham) using a Random primed DNA labeling kit (Boehringer Mannheim). The oligonucleotide sequences are:

exon 1 : 5'-ACCGCATATTGGATTACTTCATAGAGGCAC-3' (Fig. 4A, 1)
 intron 1 : 5'-AAATTCCGGTGTGTCGGACCTGTCATCTGA-3' (Fig. 4A, 2)
 exon 2 : 5'-GGATTTCAGCGGTGTAATGTTAAGAGGCTCC-3' (Fig. 4A, 3)
 intron 2 : 5'-GTCCAACAAGCTCGTGTGAAGATCGAATGACT-3' (Fig. 4A, 4)
 exon 3 : 5'-CATAGGTACTCAAGATATTGTGTTTGGAGAGGTAGA-3' (Fig. 4A, 5)
 exon 1-exon 2 : 5'-ACTCGGATTTTCAATCATTTACTTGCTTTA-3' (Fig. 4A, 6)
 exon 2-exon 3 : 5'-ATGTCCAACATCACATACTAGCAGATGTT-3' (Fig. 4A, 7)

Results and Discussion

Structure of *ψmad7* gene corresponding to the bovine ND7 subunit of NADH dehydrogenase

Previously, reading frames which showed significant amino acid sequence similarities with the eighth 49 kDa subunit of NADH dehydrogenase (ND7) from bovine heart (Fearnley *et al.*, 1989) and *Neurospora crassa* (Preis *et al.*, 1990) were detected between a transfer RNA gene cluster (*trnD-trnS-trnA-trnT*) and a ribosome protein gene cluster (*rps10-rpl2-rps19-rps3-rpl16-rpl5-rps14-rps8-rpl6-rps13-rps11-rps1*) (Oda *et al.*, 1992a; Oda *et al.*, 1992c). These reading frames were designated as a pseudogene, *ψmad7*, based on the following observations.

This hypothetical *ψmad7* gene product showed high amino acid sequence similarities with wheat NAD7 (88.2%), bovine ND7 (70.7%) and *Neurospora* ND7 (61.2%) (Fig. 1). This also showed 33.5% and 42.8% homologies with the product of *Trypanosoma brucei* mitochondrial MURF3 gene which were edited by addition and deletion of uridine and with the liverwort chloroplast ORF392, respectively. However, these reading frames in putative exon 1 and exon 2 were interrupted by six translational stop codons (three TGA, one TAG, and two TAA).

Two sets of 5'- and 3'-terminal consensus sequences (GUGYG and AC, respectively) for group II introns (Michel and Dujon, 1983) were located between three putative exons (Oda *et al.*, 1992a). Although assumed intron regions of 3,062 bp and 1,427 bp could form almost typical secondary structures specific to group II introns (Michel and Dujon, 1983), some impairing bases between exon-binding sequences (EBS) and intron-binding sequences (IBS) were found in both of them (Fig. 2). In the first intron of *ψmad7*, a base pairing could not be formed between EBS1 and IBS1 (shown by asterisks in Fig. 2A). On the other hand, in the second intron one base pairing between EBS1 and IBS1, and two base pairings between EBS2 and IBS2 could not be formed (Fig. 2B). It is suggested that both introns have no splicing activity and a mature mRNA is not produced.

Existence of traces of the RNA maturase-like reading frame in introns

In the hypothetical first intron of *ψmad7*, reading frames which showed significant sequence similarities with the RNA maturase encoded in the first intron of mitochondrial *cox1* gene encoding cytochrome *c* oxidase in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Bonitz *et al.*, 1980; Carignani *et al.*, 1983) or a reverse transcriptase-like reading frame in the first intron of *Podospora anserina cox1* (Cummings *et al.*, 1990) were found (Fig. 3). However, in the liverwort sequences multiple frameshifts and several translational stop codons were detected. In addition, reading frames partly homologous to such intron-coded polypeptides were also found in the putative second intron, though they also contain several stop codons as in the case of the first

Liverwort nad711
Yeast cox111
Podospira cox111

GAPTSAYISLMR-----TALVLIINRYLKHMNTSVGANFTGTACHKTPMI-SVGGVRCYMVRLTNNLQVPIRIT
GAPPNVRFKSGELDISYCCCLLNLLTYL--MTKGLRECSMSVNPYLTA-IKSVESGEVKASVVLRLLTVMVGLCV

*DLILTIIPWEPFRHSRQDRRPRIEVSQAYLCTKWDDPTQSGPTDCTRLVPKDLKHQTPGPSEVNS I
ISSYHLDVMKQVWLFYVEVIRLWPIVLDSTGSKKKKDTNN::GNTKSEGSTERGNSG:D-RGMVVPNTQMKMRFL
SIGIKIAIALYVWL:KISASLIKNSYSFTTSEGGYIVY-----NAKGRRLNVGNSGL::GRNSYGN:SVV:GVV

ALISAYKLLKEKDYNNLYLTLLTQIQLIYQLQNHENLLRLIAQKGLYCKLFD-TNLHITTYGKLSKQGNMT
NQVRY:SVNNNLKMGKDTNIELSKD:STSD:LEFEKLVMDNMNEENMNNLLSIMKNVDMMLA:NRI::P:::
SGKWIHT-----KVRKSKVSP:SEARKGQSGSLGEMLMYNERGQC:NA---EVICK-LEALY:A:MNI::EP:::

PGLRTPKTWIAWDN/KNHCQTQGGIPIQNT-SRRTPIPKPNGDQRLGIPSLRDKVQEAIAQVIEPAPERKFLP
::TTLETLDGMNMYL:KLSNELGTGKFKPKPM:MVN:::K:GM:::SVGNP::KI:::VMRMILDTI:DK:MST
:RVDSETLDGISKWEFEKISE:LKSEQPRFRPT::VY:::A::KM:::A:P::KI:::VFR:IL:QVL:PR:HS

SSHGPRPSRSPRTALREIRTNGRV/NWAIEGDIKGYFYNINHHKLASFDAELR---DP*LLQLYWKLV--GGQD
H:::KNN:CQ::IW:V:NMPGGS::F::V:L:K:DT:S:DLI---IK::KRYIS:KGFID:VY::LRA:YI:
:::G:GHS:AT::YWGNIK::F:::D::D:I:---EKL:VKHFQ:QRFID:::M:KA:YVE

MD*KRSPKL/VVGLRGVLSPLNPIYLGPLDQPCCEL-KIR--YKAPTSL/SPDRRPRLFKKSKE-----EDHL-
EKGYTHKPMGLPQGLI::I:C::VMTLV:NWL---DYINL:NK-GKVKKQHTY-KKLSRMI-----AKAKM
F:KDK:S-IIG:PQG:IA::I:S:LV:NE::E:VQNIWDEFNEKLKGGKHT:KNPAYVVIDSRICKITRLERKLS

-----RARLEWL-----RKSIEIRVV-KIY--YLRANDWI/GVVGSKKVALAIAEIASFL--KLHL*LNW
FSTR-LKHK-ERAKG---PTFIYNDPNFKRMK--V::D:ILI::L::NDCKM:K-RDLNNPLNS:G:TM:E
KQQLDSDGKLERMK:IKVRATMPSMIPNPLAKIY:V::D:LI::A::SET:R:KER::AY:KDI:K:E:SM

DNTKTHISSQLALFLGTHIKVLRAESI--RNHRILVVGQRTSATFRLHLLAPIERIVKHLHGKGLC-----
EK:L::CATELP:R::YN:SITPLKRMPTVTKT--RGKTIRSRN:T:PIIN::RD:INK:ATN:Y--KHNK--N
EK:L::NA:EDR:Y:::E:QRISVKGKIKRPN-IR:HPQ:IP:TSTVMN::SKL:TK:AD::IVIWKSKALN

TPTGKPKPVR*WIFLDHHELIYFYQDIMSGYMNYSFVDNYGMLK-RVAYIVRFSAAAGTLKRRKRLSVASVFRGS
GRM:V:TR:GR:LYEPRTI:NN:KALGR:IL::KLAT::KR:RE:Y:VLYY:CVL::AS:YRLKTMSTI:KF
EDNLI:Q:ILK:VN:PIRDI:L::KM:WN::I:::A::KPR:V-LIYW:L:K:L:K:AT:L:LGT:RK:YLRK

GTGRGKEL*
:YNLNIENDKLIANPPRNTFDNIKKIENHGMFMYMSEAKVTDPEYIDSIKYMPLTAKANFNKPCSIENSTIDVE
:VNLRF:ILGTDNKSIEFTKGNLLPTPKNFKGKTNPVDNLKVVEWSLRTVS-----FFNYVCASCGASDNLQ

MHVVKQLHRGMLKATKDYITGRMITMNRKQIPLCKQCHIKTHKNKPKNMGPQM*
VHVHKHIRTIDVKLSGFDKQLAAL--NRKQVTLCSCHNKVHTGKYDGMSLKYMKDIDSKPELNQ*

Fig. 3. Amino acid sequence comparison of the hypothetical protein (Liverwort nad711) in the liverwort *ψnad7* first intron with the RNA maturase encoded by the first intron in the yeast *cox1* (Yeast cox111) and with the reverse transcriptase-like ORF encoded by the first intron in *Podospira cox1* (*Podospira cox111*). Frame shifts are indicated by diagonals and filled triangles. Open triangles show translational stop codons. Other symbols are same as described in Fig. 1.

intron (data not shown). These findings suggest that both DNA segments are traces of RNA maturases in the liverwort mitochondrial genome. A maturase-related open reading frame was identified in a group II intron of broad bean mitochondrial *nad1* (Wahleithner *et al.*, 1990). However, this did not show significant amino acid sequence similarity with those in the liverwort *ψnad7* introns.

Expression of *ψnad7* in the liverwort mitochondria

In order to know whether this pseudogene is expressed at a RNA level, exon and intron specific probes were generated as shown in Fig. 4A. Total mitochondrial RNA isolated from the liverwort cells was hybridized with ³²P-labeled oligonucleotide probes (Fig. 4B). Probes for the putative three exons and two introns hybridized with two bands of 16 kb and 9.6 kb (Fig. 4B, lanes 1 to 5). This indicates that these regions are actively transcribed in continuous mRNA transcripts of 16 kb or 9.6 kb which could cover not only *ψnad7* itself (5,668 bp) but also regions upstream and/or downstream. Northern hybridization probed for *rps10* which is located 1.3 kb downstream from *ψnad7* demonstrates the existence of the same 9.6 kb band as shown in Chapter I, supporting that *ψnad7* is co-transcribed with at least *rps10*.

In addition to the two common bands, only one additional band was detected in all five cases. Namely, a 2.6 kb band was detected as probed only for the first exon (exon 1), while a 5.6 kb band was found as probed for exon 2, exon 3, intron 1 and intron 2. This indicates that the 5.6 kb RNA molecules still contain these two introns and that these regions are not spliced out in the liverwort mitochondria.

To detect RNA molecules which contain joint sequences between exon 1 and exon 2 or between exon 2 and exon 3, synthetic oligonucleotide probes of 30 mers were used for RNA blot analysis (Fig. 4B, lanes 6 and 7). However, no significant hybridization signal was detected, confirming that joint molecules, namely spliced RNA molecules, do not exist in the liverwort mitochondria. No splicing event of the introns in *ψnad7* gene may be caused by impairing bases between EBS and IBS as mentioned above.

There are two possibilities in the production of a functional ND7 protein in the liverwort mitochondria as follows; (i) the functional ND7 gene encoded by the mitochondrial genome may have been transported to the nuclear genome and original *nad7* on the mitochondrial genome would have become a pseudogene. And biological active polypeptide of ND7 subunit may be transported from cytoplasm into mitochondria. Actually, in mammal or fungi ND7 is encoded by the nuclear genome

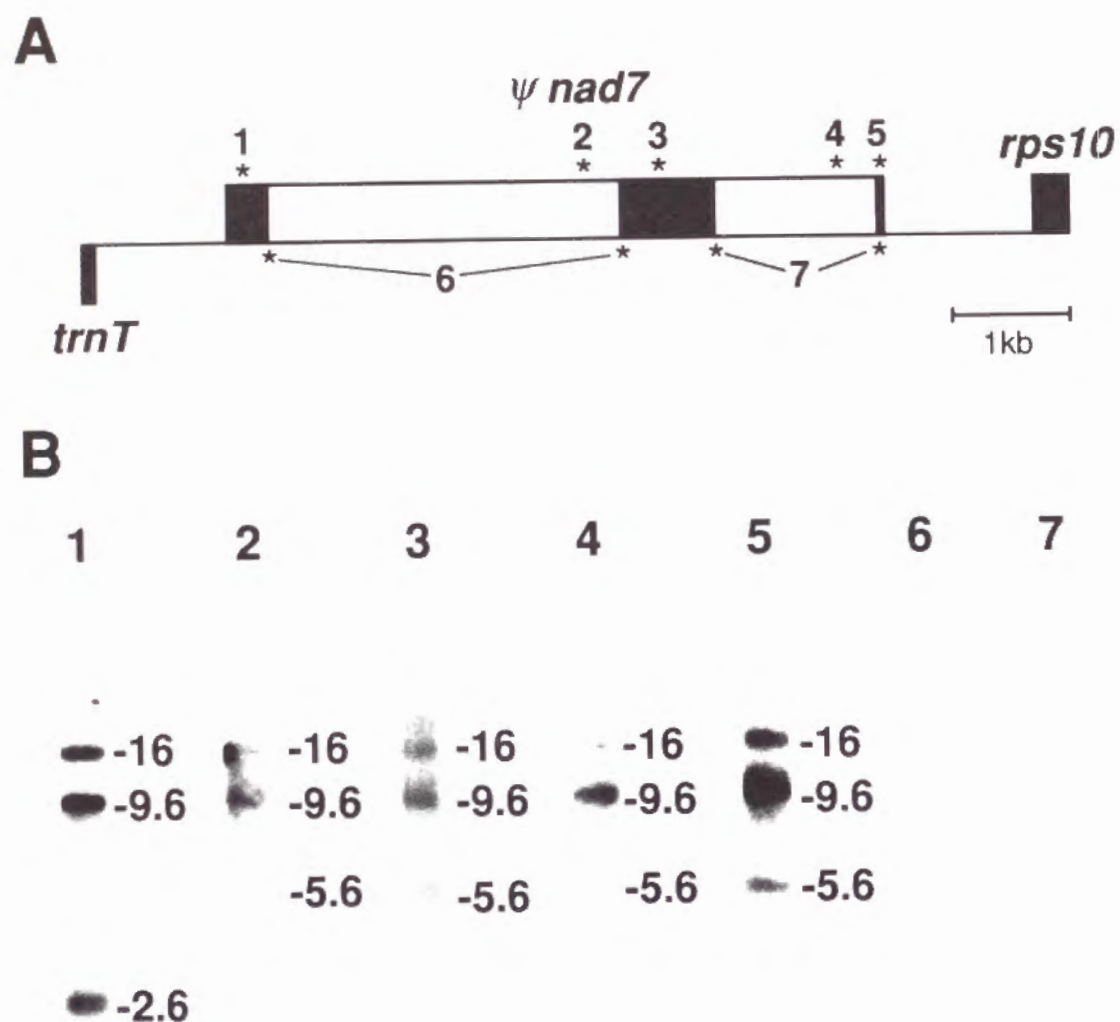


Fig. 4A, B. Northern blot analysis of mitochondrial RNA. **A** Gene organization of the liverwort $\psi nad7$ gene. Filled and open boxes indicate hypothetical exons and introns, respectively. Asterisks with numbers show positions of oligonucleotide probes used for RNA blot analysis. **B** Total mitochondrial RNA blots were probed by oligonucleotides specific for exon 1, lane 1; intron 1, lane 2; exon 2, lane 3; intron 2, lane 4; exon 3, lane 5, by an overlapping oligonucleotide between exon 1 and exon 2 (lane 6), and by an overlapping oligonucleotide between exon 2 and exon 3 (lane 7). Molecular sizes of transcripts are shown in kilobases (kb).

and its translation products are imported into mitochondria (Walker, 1992). (ii) The chloroplast-encoded ND7 homologue, ORF392 products, might be transported from chloroplast into mitochondria by unknown mechanisms.

Detection of *nad7*-like DNA segment in liverwort nuclear genome

To know the possibility of transfer of *nad7* coding region to the nuclear genome, liverwort genomic DNA digested with *Xho*I was blotted to a membrane filter and probed by the 32 P-labeled exon 2 specific fragment (Fig. 5A). As a result, the exon 2 specific probe hybridized with one major band of 7.2 kb (Fig. 5B, lane 1). When the liverwort mitochondrial DNA digested with *Xho*I was probed with the same probe, a single 26 kb band was detected which corresponded to mitochondrial $\psi nad7$ (Fig. 5B, lane 2). In contrast, the exon 2 specific probe hybridized with a 42 kb *Xho*I chloroplast DNA fragment which corresponded to the *nad7* homologue ORF392 (Ohyama *et al.*, 1986, data not shown). These results indicate that this 7.2 kb DNA fragment was not derived from organellar, mitochondrial and chloroplast genomes but from nuclear genome in liverwort cells and suggest that gene(s) for the mitochondrial ND7 polypeptide is encoded by the nuclear genome in liverwort.

Detection of poly(A)⁺mRNA corresponding *nad7* gene in liverwort cells

To detect RNA molecules derived from putative nuclear *nad7*, poly(A)⁺mRNA isolated from liverwort cells was probed by 32 P-labeled DNA fragment specific to exon 2 as used in genomic Southern blot analysis. One major band was detected at the size of 2.2 kb in RNA blot (Fig. 5C). This indicates that poly(A)⁺mRNA molecules which has sequence similarity with mitochondrial $\psi nad7$ (at least exon 2 region) present in liverwort cells. Therefore, it is strongly suggested that the gene for the subunit 7 of the complex I is encoded by nuclear DNA and the translational products are transported into mitochondria in liverwort cells. Cloning and structural analysis of cDNA and genomic DNA encoding subunit 7 would be elucidated this assumption.

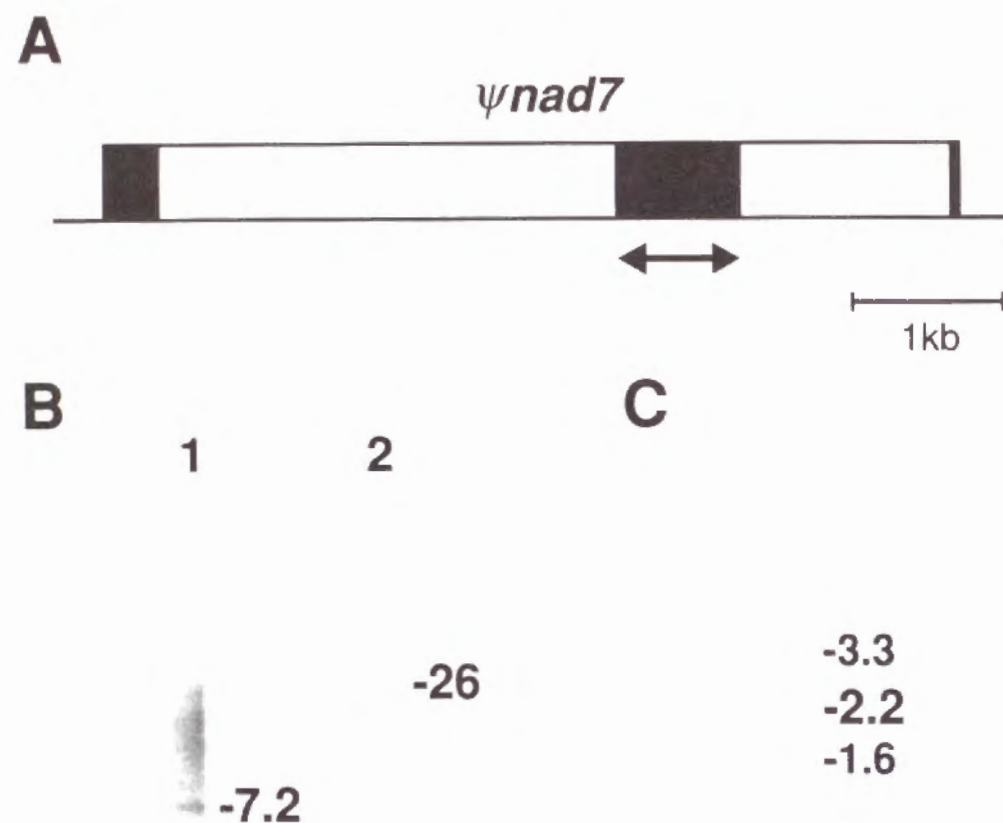


Figure 5A, B and C. A Gene organization of the liverwort mitochondrial $\psi nad7$ gene. Bar with arrows shows an exon 2 specific DNA probe generated by PCR amplification using cloned mitochondrial DNA as a template. B Southern hybridization analysis of nuclear DNA (lane 1) and mitochondrial DNA (lane 2) from liverwort cells with an exon 2 specific probe. Molecular sizes are indicated as kilobase (kb). C Northern hybridization analysis of liverwort poly(A)⁺mRNA with an exon 2 specific DNA probe. Two minor bands of 3.3 kb and 1.6 kb correspond to ribosomal RNAs.

transferred from the mitochondrion to the nucleus via a C-to-U edited RNA intermediate. On the other hand, in cowpea, *cox2* is not encoded by mitochondrial genome but by nuclear genome (Nugent and Palmer, 1991). These findings suggest that after the transfer of mitochondrial *cox2* to the nucleus, the original mitochondrial gene has been lost in cowpea, while in soybean that was not lost but inactivated. In liverwort, mitochondrial *nad7* was possibly transferred to the nuclear genome as in the cases of higher plant *cox2* genes. Similarly to the cowpea *cox2*, liverwort *nad7* was not lost but retained in mitochondrial genome. However, unlike cowpea mitochondrial *cox2*, liverwort mitochondrial *nad7* is actively transcribed, although its transcript is not apparently functional. Recently, it has been reported that functional *nad7* genes are encoded by the mitochondrial genomes in higher plants (Gälber *et al.*, 1994; Bonen *et al.*, 1994). Therefore, a gene transfer event of *nad7* has been presumably occurred in an ancestor of liverwort after the split of bryophyte. Since liverwort $\psi nad7$ reading frames show high levels of amino acid sequence similarities with parts of wheat mitochondrial *nad7*, loss of function of the original *nad7* on the liverwort mitochondrial genome possibly occurred more recently in evolution.

It is reported that cytochrome *c* oxidase subunit 2 gene (*cox2*) encoded by soybean mitochondria is silent and that its functional counterpart is encoded by the nuclear genome (Covello and Gray, 1992). By comparison of mitochondrial and nuclear *cox2* sequences, it is supposed that in an ancestor of soybean, *cox2* was

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Summary

Chapter I

Sixteen genes for ribosomal proteins, *rps1*, *rps2*, *rps3*, *rps4*, *rps7*, *rps8*, *rps10*, *rps11*, *rps12*, *rps13*, *rps14*, *rps19*, *rpl2*, *rpl5*, *rpl6* and *rpl16*, were detected in the complete sequence (186,608 bp) of the mitochondrial DNA from a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*. The genes formed two major clusters, *rps12-rps7* and *rps10-rpl2-rps19-rps3-rpl16-rpl5-rps14-rps8-rpl6-rps13-rps11-rps1*, very similar in organization to *E. coli* ribosomal protein operons (*str* and *S10-spc-α* operons, respectively). In contrast, *rps2* and *rps4* genes were located separately in the liverwort mitochondrial genome (the latter was part of the α operon in *E. coli*). This finding supports the endosymbiont hypothesis, which postulated that organelles of eukaryotes originated from prokaryotic ancestors in the course of evolution. Furthermore, several ribosomal proteins encoded by the liverwort mitochondrial genome differed substantially in size from their counterparts in *E. coli* and liverwort chloroplast. The Northern hybridization analysis showed that *rps2* and *rps4* genes were transcribed in liverwort mitochondria. The *rps12* and *rps7* genes organized into the cluster were possibly co-transcribed. Additionally, it was suggested that the four genes, *rpl2*, *rps19*, *rps3* and *rpl16* which included in the large cluster were expressed as a single transcriptional unit and that *rps10* were co-transcribed with *ψnad7*. The remainder seven genes in the large cluster were supposed to be silent or to be transcribed at low levels.

Chapter II

The genes encoding subunits, 1, 2, 3, 4, 4L, 5, 6 and 9 of the NADH dehydrogenase (*nad1*, *nad2*, *nad3*, *nad4*, *nad4L*, *nad5*, *nad6*, and *nad9*) were identified in the mitochondrial genome of a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*. Three genes *nad5*, *nad4*, and *nad2* were tandemly clustered whereas *nad1*, *nad3*, *nad4L*, *nad6*, and *nad9* genes were located separately on the liverwort mitochondrial genome. Their gene products showed high levels of amino acid sequence identity with the

correspondings from higher plants, and significant levels of similarity with those from liverwort chloroplast, *Podospira anserina* mitochondria, and human mitochondria. In addition, three clustered genes, *nad2*, *nad4* and *nad5*, have conserved amino acid residues in their central regions. Several regions of the *nad* genes were repeated in the liverwort mitochondrial genome. The Northern hybridization analysis using either exon or intron specific probes showed that all *nad* genes were transcribed in the liverwort mitochondria. It was also indicated that five genes *nad1*, *nad3*, *nad4L*, *nad6*, and *nad9* produced transcripts larger in length than would be predicted for the respective genes and thus were possibly co-transcribed with their neighboring genes upstream and/or downstream. On the other hand, three clustered genes were transcribed as a single precursor mRNA and were processed into mature mRNA molecules in the liverwort mitochondria.

Chapter III

A pseudogene, *ψnad7*, which had a significant amino acid sequence similarity with the bovine nuclear-encoded gene for the eighth 49 kDa subunit of NADH dehydrogenase has been identified on the mitochondrial genome from a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*. The predicted coding region, which included six termination codons, was actively transcribed into RNA molecules of 16 kb and 9.6 kb, but RNA splicing products were not detected in the liverwort mitochondria. This may be caused by the incomplete structures of the two hypothetical introns of this gene. Genomic DNA hybridization analysis and RNA hybridization analysis using poly(A)⁺mRNA suggested that a structurally related nuclear gene encoded the mitochondrial ND7 polypeptide. These results imply that this *ψnad7*, is a relic of a gene transfer event from mitochondrial genome into nuclear genome during mitochondrial evolution in *M. polymorpha*.

List of Publications

- (a) K. Ohyama, Y. Ogura, K. Oda, K. Yamato, E. Ohta, Y. Nakamura, M. Takemura, N. Nozato, K. Akashi, T. Kanegae, and Y. Yamada (1991) Evolution of organellar genomes in *Evolution of life* (eds. by S. Osawa and T. Honjo, Springer-Verlag, Tokyo) pp.187-198.
- (b) Y. Ogura, T. Yoshida, Y. Nakamura, M. Takemura, K. Oda, and K. Ohyama (1991) Gene encoding a putative zinc finger protein in *Synechocystis* PCC6803. *Agric. Biol. Chem.* **55**, 2259-2264.
- (c) K. Oda, K. Yamato, E. Ohta, Y. Nakamura, M. Takemura, N. Nozato, K. Akashi, T. Kanegae, Y. Ogura, T. Kohchi, and K. Ohyama (1992) Gene organization deduced from the complete sequence of liverwort *Marchantia polymorpha* mitochondrial DNA. *J. Mol. Biol.* **223**, 1-7.
- (d) K. Oda, K. Yamato, E. Ohta, Y. Nakamura, M. Takemura, N. Nozato, K. Akashi, and K. Ohyama (1992) Complete nucleotide sequence of the mitochondrial DNA from a liverwort, *Marchantia polymorpha*. *Plant Mol. Biol. Rep.* **10**, 105-163.
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- (h) N. Nozato, K. Oda, K. Yamato, E. Ohta, M. Takemura, K. Akashi, H. Fukuzawa, and K. Ohyama (1993) Cotranscriptional expression of mitochondrial genes for subunits of NADH dehydrogenase, *nad5*, *nad4*, *nad2*, in *Marchantia polymorpha*. *Mol. Gen. Genet.* **237**, 343-350.
- (i) K. Yamato, N. Nozato, K. Oda, E. Ohta, M. Takemura, K. Akashi, and K. Ohyama (1993) Occurrence and transcription of genes for *nad1*, *nad3*, *nad4L*, and *nad6*, coding for NADH dehydrogenase subunits 1, 3, 4L, and 6, in liverwort mitochondria. *Curr. Genet.* **23**, 526-531.
- (j) E. Ohta, K. Oda, K. Yamato, Y. Nakamura, M. Takemura, N. Nozato, K. Akashi, K. Ohyama, and F. Michel (1993) Group I introns in the liverwort mitochondrial genome: the gene coding for subunit I of cytochrome oxidase shares five intron positions with its fungal counterparts. *Nucl. Acids. Res.* **21**, 1297-1305.
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- (m) M. Takemura, N. Nozato, K. Oda, H. Fukuzawa, and K. Ohyama (1995) Active transcription of the pseudogene for the subunit 7 of the NADH dehydrogenase in *Marchantia polymorpha* mitochondria. *Mol. Gen. Genet.* in press.

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